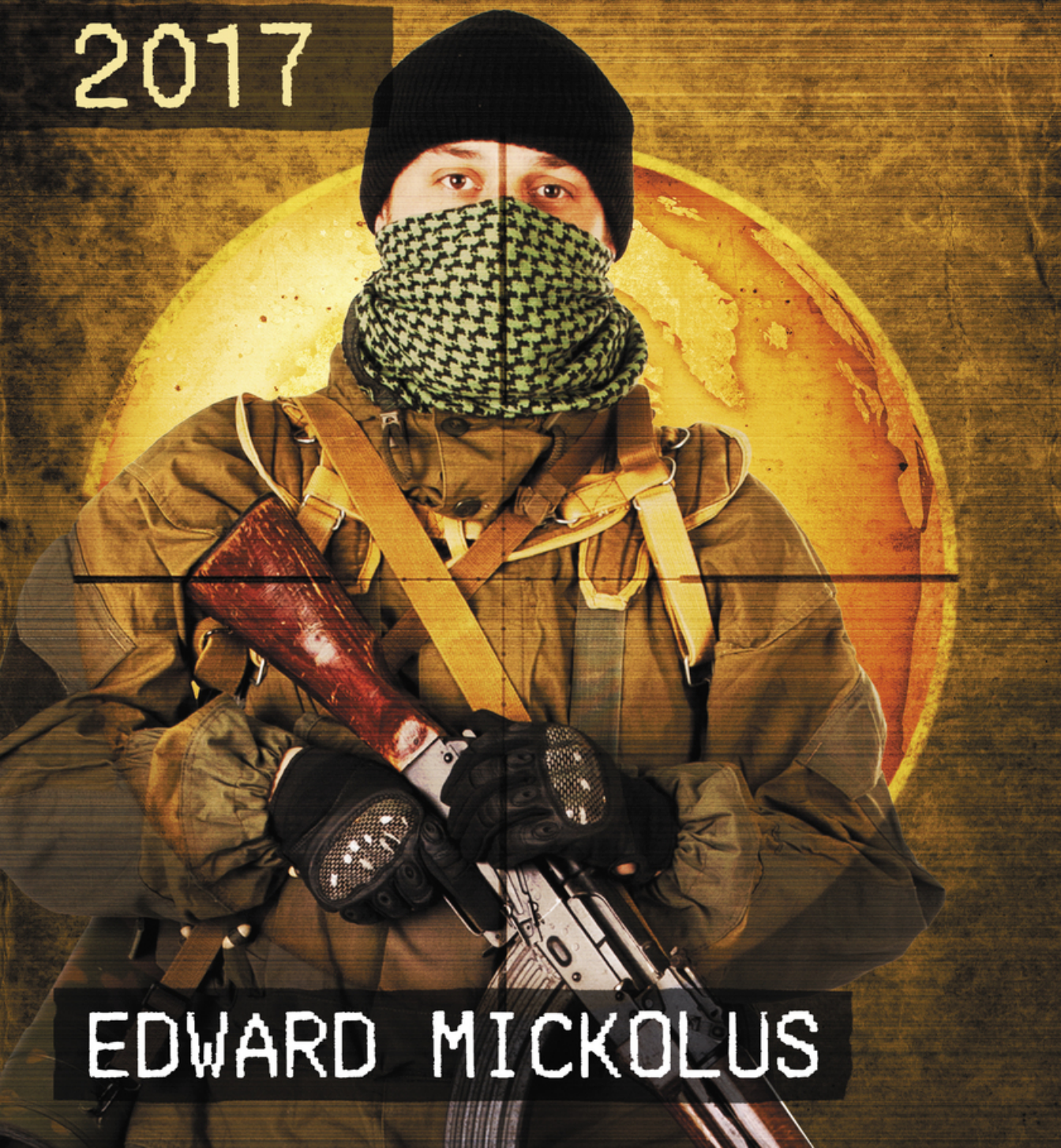
# TERRORISM WORLDWIDE

2017



EDWARD MICKOLUS

Terrorism
Worldwide, 2017

Also by Edward Mickolus
and from McFarland

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*Terrorism Worldwide, 2016* (2018)

*Terrorism, 2013–2015: A Worldwide Chronology* (2016)

*The Counterintelligence Chronology: Spying by and Against the United States from the 1700s through 2014* (2015)

*Terrorism, 2008–2012: A Worldwide Chronology* (2014)

# Terrorism Worldwide, 2017

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# Introduction

This book uses the same definition of terrorism as found in its predecessors, allowing comparability across decades. Terrorism is the use or threat of use of violence by any individual or group for political purposes. The perpetrators may be functioning for or in opposition to established governmental authority. A key component of international terrorism is that its ramifications transcend national boundaries, and, in so doing, create an extended atmosphere of fear and anxiety. The effects of terrorism reach national and worldwide cultures as well as the lives of the people directly hurt by the terrorist acts. Violence becomes terrorism when the intention is to influence the attitudes and behavior of a target group beyond the immediate victims. Violence becomes terrorism when its location, the victims, or the mechanics of its resolution result in consequences and implications beyond the act or threat itself.

The book features a region-by-region (and within each, a country-by-country) look at terrorist incidents, followed by an Appendix updating events that occurred prior to 2017. Reports of incidents are based solely on publicly available sources. The entries are comprehensive in scope and not meant to be analytical. As such, the section also includes descriptions of non-international attacks that provide the security and political context in which international attacks take place. In some cases, the international terrorists mimic the tactics of their stay-at-home cohorts. Often, these are the same terrorists working on their home soil against domestic, rather than foreign, targets. Domestic attacks often serve as proving grounds for techniques later adopted for international use. I have therefore included material on major technological, philosophical, or security advances, such as: the use of letter bombs; food tampering; major assassinations; attempts to develop, acquire, smuggle, or use precursors for an actual chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapon; key domestic and international legislation and new security procedures; key arrests and trials of major figures; and incidents involving mass casualties.

The Appendix provides follow-ups to incidents first reported before January 1, 2017. For example, updates include information about the outcome of trials for terrorist acts occurring before 2017 and "where are they now" information about terrorists and their victims. The update is identified by the original incident date, and I have included enough prefatory material to give some context and to identify the original incident in the earlier volumes.

International terrorist incidents and airline hijackings are identified by an eight-digit code. The first six digits identify the date on which the incident became known as a terrorist attack to someone other than the terrorists themselves (e.g., the date the letter bomb finally arrived at the recipient's office, even though terrorists had mailed it weeks earlier; or the date on which investigators determined that an anomalous situation was terrorist in nature). The final two digits ratchet the number of attacks that took place on that date. In instances in which either the day of the month or the month itself is unknown, "99" is used in that field. Non-international entries do not receive an eight-digit code.

The information cutoff date for this volume is January 3, 2018.

The Bibliography includes references drawn from the same public sources that provide the incidents, literature searches, and contributions

sent by readers of previous volumes. It does not purport to be comprehensive.

## *Activities of Key Terrorist Groups*

Although international terrorism is not only the work of the Islamic State (IS), a noteworthy amount of attacks in 2017 can be attributed to IS, its affiliates, and those inspired by its call to violence. Because of its international spread and radically decentralized method of operations-by-inspiration, a scan of the index demonstrates that few days go by without an attack by someone declaring fealty to, if not membership in, some form of IS.

Key developments for IS included:

- **Loss of its territory** in Iraq and Syria, essentially ending the ISIS Caliphate's run that began in 2014. Mosul, Iraq, fell to the coalition in the spring. The notional Caliphate capital Raqqa fell in mid–October. The shriveling of the Caliphate could perversely free up ISIS resources previously used in governance of Iraqi and Syrian territory.
- The loss of territory in turn entailed ISIS's **loss of income-generating activities** based upon holding territory, such as taxes, shakedowns, clandestine oil sales, and expropriations of property of fleeing civilians. The putative richest terrorist organization ever to have existed had experienced this financial windfall by becoming a quasi-state, and it will not be able to reverse its economic downturn by resort to smuggling and extortion. Annual revenues had been in decline before the 2017 collapse, but the turnover of Mosul and Raqqa underscored the financial catastrophe. Although measuring black market economies is dicey at best, King's College London and Ernst and Young estimated that ISIS made $1.9 billion in 2014, but only $870 million in 2016. In a similar study, HIS Markit reported that during the second quarter of 2015, ISIS earned $81 million by producing and smuggling oil and taxing residents, but such revenue dropped to $16 million during the second quarter of 2017. Unfortunately, most terrorist attacks do not require extensive monetary wherewithal.
- Western and other governments feared that the **reverse diaspora** of potentially thousands of terrorist vacationers to the Caliphate will lead to increased terrorist attacks on their home soil. The Soufan Group reported in October that some 5,600 individuals had returned home to 33 countries after getting experience on ISIS-held territory. Among the returnees were 900 Turks, 800 Tunisians, 760 Saudis, and 425 Britons. Recipient governments were faced with the problem of integrating these transients into their society, and what to do with the families of these ISIS alumni, many of whom were dragged to the Caliphate by the radicalized head of the household. Some observers suggested that the family members may also become terrorists upon returning home. ISIS's dwindling presence in Caliphate territory was also made up in part by an increasing presence and operational activity in Libya, Egypt, and Somalia. ISIS does not view itself as defeated, just moving to new opportunities.
- Continuation of IS-inspired **lone wolf attacks** in Western Europe, the U.S., and elsewhere. Most were homegrown, and few had overseas experience fighting for ISIS or other radical groups.
- **Loss of key leaders** on the battlefield (see detailed listing that follows) did not mean an end to the group's operational abilities and intentions. Senior leadership decapitation made for headlines and success stories for government forces, but ultimately the terrorism problem did not go away with reliance on a "kill when found" strategy.
- **Willingness to kill Muslims seen as heretical**. Views of what constitutes a Muslim to the outside world differ from those determining terrorist targets. In February, a Pakistani suicide bomber killed 90 Sufis deemed *Mushrikin* (polytheists); in November, Egyptian IS members killed 305 Sufis seen as non–Muslim. In IS eyes, Sufi veneration of saints deviates from Salafi belief in a single, indivisible God. ISIS out-radicalized more traditional al-Qaeda adherents in its willingness to attack Sufis.
- **Willingness to attack places of worship**. The Egyptian IS affiliate and Boko Haram had earlier shown no distaste for attacking Christian churches, but the extension of the target list to mosques put a new wrinkle to the "Is nothing sacred?" question. Loosening of self-imposed restrictions on attacking mosques and churches of one's own faith was also seen in a mass-casualty attack in the United States. The attacks limit acquisition of a broad new following, but underscore the groups' more-puritanical-than-thou aspirations.

ISIS's difficulties might be exploited by remnants of the original al-Qaeda, from which ISIS was spawned. While ISIS caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi kept his head down and rarely issued public statements, al-Qaeda spokesmen attempted to fill the void. Titular al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri continued to pepper the Internet with long discourses on how jihadi theory

applies to world and regional events, while Hamza bin Laden, Osama bin Laden's most prominent radical son, tried to seize the al-Qaeda brand name from the older generation with statements and a new visual presence on the Internet designed to appeal to the younger generation first attracted to the "caliphate now" approach of ISIS.

Al-Qaeda's return to prominence, however, will not be without difficulties. The likeliest pretender to leadership, the Yemen-based al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, was harried on one side by Houthi rebels holding control of what remains of government reins and on the other by a Saudi-led coalition that included frequent drone and other airstrikes against its leadership and troops. Other al-Qaeda franchises experienced defections to IS affiliates.

Despite Nigerian government assurances that **Boko Haram** has been dismantled, the group continued with large-scale attacks against villages and suicide bombings that killed scores, including many involving teen girls who were believed to have been kidnapped in earlier operations. One attack in November killed 50 people, underscoring that while the group might have had tactical reversals, it still remained a major threat to those in its area of operations. Boko Haram continued to ignore borders, conducting attacks in Nigeria's neighboring countries.

Elsewhere in Africa, an African Union and U.S.-supported coalition to rid Somalia of **al-Shabaab** has had mixed success. While numerous fighters have been killed, the group continues to conduct mass casualty operations in the capital and outlying areas, and often engages in revenge operations on the soil of Kenya, which has provided troops to the coalition.

In South Asia, attacks by **Taliban** factions, ISIS affiliates, and other jihadis continued in Afghanistan and Pakistan despite extensive efforts by governments to combat them. India's ongoing Kashmiri insurgency showed no signs of abating.

Outside jihadi spheres, **Colombia**'s bumpy road to peace was highlighted by the continuing civilianization of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)—even changing its name, but not acronym, to match its transforming to a more traditional political party—and the National Liberation Army (the second-largest insurgency) toe-in-the water approach to ending its conflict with the government.

**Counterterrorist actions** throughout the world, but most notably in the U.S., Western Europe, and the Philippines, led to the capture and/or death of numerous would-be terrorists and the foiling of scores of planned attacks.

## *Innovations in Terrorist Methods*

While the bulk of attacks remained low-level, with few if any casualties, mass casualty attacks remained popular methods for some organizations and individuals inspired by organizations. **Vehicular attacks** in which the vehicle is aimed at the targets, rather than used as a transporter of explosives, were advocated years earlier by jihadi magazines and came into their own during the year, with attacks in the U.S., Sweden, France, Belgium, Germany, and the UK, killing scores. Vehicle attacks in the U.S. included those by an IS wannabe in New York City and a white nationalist in Charlottesville, Virginia. The New America research institution reported that since 2014, fifteen vehicular attacks in the West by jihadis killed 142 people.

**Vehicular** mow-'em-down attacks sometimes were enhanced with the use of **edged weapons**; in other attacks, assailants relied solely on swords, machetes, and knives. Stabbings were reported on several continents; while the body counts were limited, the element of surprise and ease of weapons concealment made the tactic increasingly popular. Israel and the occupied territories logged numerous attacks against civilians, police, and soldiers.

Other new techniques, such as downward shooting, initially begun by U.S. mentally ill attackers, and highlighted by an October attack in Las Vegas that killed or wounded 550 people, could well serve as models for next-generation lone wolves. The technique makes it difficult for initial survivors to find **escape routes**. A variant of the technique was used in November by the attackers of the Sufi al-Rawda mosque in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula in which the terrorists fired at the victims from every window and doorway, shutting off all avenues of escape.

Another low-tech method we might see in coming years is the use of "bump-stocks," a simple way of making a semiautomatic weapon perform with the speed of an automatic and making **sniper attacks** much more lethal in a much shorter time. The technique increased the fire-

power of the single shooter in Las Vegas; terrorists with Internet access were probably taking notes.

## *Fates of Key Terrorists*

In *Terrorism, 2013–2015*, I suggested that terrorism-hunters concentrate on several key terrorists, including

- **Ibrahim Hassan al-Asiri**, AQAP's chief bomb maker.
- **Samantha Louise Lewthwaite**, believed to be an al-Shabaab strategist.
- **Abubakar Shekau**, Boko Haram leader. His control over the organization ebbed, with a rival claiming suzerainty over the group.
- **Ayman Mohammed Rabie al-Zawahiri**. The al-Qaeda leader continued to be sidelined, reduced to issuing videos with limited production values of minimal interest to the next generation of jihadis.
- **Returning jihadis** from ISIS territory. Hundreds of terrorism tourists proved a difficult task for surveillance teams.
- **Lone wolves**. Many popped up throughout the rest of the world. Security forces stopped many, but not all, before they could attack.

Those named above apparently survived. Shekau is often reported dead, but then pops up in videos. Al-Asiri and Lewthwaite have not been seen in years. Terrorists generally do not retire peacefully, usually either dying on the battlefield or in prison. The following did not get past the year:

## *Senior Terrorists Killed in 2017*

This list includes those killed by coalition and Russian forces, including by airstrikes, and by rival terrorist groups, plus those who died of natural causes.

### Al-Qaeda

- Qari Saifullah Akhtar, a senior Pakistani al-Qaeda leader
- Abu al-Khayr al-Masri, Ayman al-Zawahiri's deputy

### AQAP

- Abdul-Raouf al-Dhahab
- Sultan al-Dhahab
- Seif al-Nims
- Khattab al-Wuhayshi, the brother of deceased AQAP leader Nasir al-Wuhayshi

### AQIS

- Omar bin Khatab, alias Omar Mansoor, deputy chief of al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent

### ISIS

- Abu Abdul Rahman al-Ansary, commander of Mosul's Old City
- Abdul Hasib, emir of ISIS-Khorasan Province
- Ayad al-Jumaili, deputy chief of ISIS, war minister, and head of the Amniya security service
- Baraa Kadek, founder of the *Aamaq* propaganda service
- Rachid Kassim, a senior operative who planned many attacks in France
- Gulmurod Khalimov, a native of Tajikistan called the "Minister of War," who had led the Tajik Interior Ministry's special forces unit before joining ISIS in 2015
- Fawaz Muhammad Jubayr al-Rawi, a financial facilitator
- Abu Sayed, emir of ISIS-Khorasan Province
- Abu Mohammed al-Shimali, emir of Deir Ezzor, Syria

### Ansar al-Khilafah Philippines

- Mohammed Jaafar Maguid, leader of ASK

### Al-Shabaab

- Moalin Osman Abdi Badil, Lower Shabelle regional leader
- Bashe Nure Hassan, in charge of the group's surveillance, logistics and supplies in the Kuday area of Jubaland
- Ali Mohamed Hussein, alias Ali Jabal, shadow governor for Mogadishu

### Afghan Taliban

- Qari Abdullah, a senior commander of the Haqqani Network
- Abu Bakr, a senior commander of the Haqqani Network
- Mullah Bashir, shadow governor of Nirkh District in Wardak Province
- Maulvi Daud, former Taliban governor of Kabul
- Dost Mohammad, shadow district chief of Qala-e-Zal
- Mawlavi Lal Mohammad, shadow governor of Baghlan Province
- Mullah Abdul Salam, the Taliban's shadow governor for Kunduz Province
- Mullah Shah Wali, leader of the Taliban's "Red Unit" in Helmand Province

**Katibat Imam al-Bukhari**

- Salahadin al-Uzbeki, the group's leader

**Pakistani Taliban**

- Mehmood-ul-Hassan

**Boko Haram**

- Abu Nazir, a senior commander on the military's wanted list

**Levant Liberation Committee, an al-Qaeda linked group in Syria**

- Abu Mohammed al-Golani, the group's commander

**Jaish e-Mohammed, a Kashmiri separatist group operating in India**

- Noor Mohammad Tantray, commander in the Kashmir valley

## *Other Terrorists Killed in 2017*

**AQAP**

- Abu Anis al-Abi, an area field commander

**ISIS**

- Ibrahim al-Ansari, a senior propagandist
- Sheikh Abu Sulayman ash Shami, believed to be Ahmad Abousamra, a Syrian-American propagandist

**Hamas**

- Mazen Faqha, who was responsible for cells of the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades

**Lashkar-e-Jangvi**

- Qari Mohammad Yasin, alias Ustad Aslam, a Pakistani terrorist accused of involvement in a deadly attack in Lahore on a bus carrying Sri Lanka's cricket team in 2009

**Pakistani Taliban**

- Asad Mehsud
- Gul Wali Mehsud

## *Key Terrorists Captured/ Surrendered in 2017*

- Ehsan Ehsanullah, former spokesperson of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and a senior leader of the Jamaat-ul-Ahrar
- Auwal Ismaeela, senior Boko Haram commander
- Mukhtar Robow, deputy chief of al-Shabaab
- Abu Omar, senior ISIS executioner in Iraq

## *Using This Book*

For those who prefer to run textual searches for specific groups, individuals, or incidents, a computer version of the 1960–2007 ITERATE (International Terrorism: Attributes of Terrorist Events) textual chronology is available from Vinyard Software, Inc., 502 Wandering Woods Way, Ponte Vedra, Florida 32081-0621, www.vinyardsoftware.com or vinyardsoftware@hotmail.com The data set comes in a WordPerfect and Word textual version and mimics the hardcopy chronologies. A numeric version offers circa 150 numeric variables describing the international attacks from 1968 to 2017. The data sets can be purchased by specific year of interest. Vinyard also offers the Data on Terrorist Suspects (DOTS) project, where you will find a detailed biographical index of every terrorist suspect identified in the previous volumes of this chronology.

Comments about this volume's utility and suggestions for improvements for its likely successors are welcome and can be sent to me via vinyardsoftware@hotmail.com. Please send your terrorism publication citations to me at Vinyard to ensure inclusion in the next edition of the bibliography.

Once again, there are many individuals who have contributed to this research effort. And thanks in particular go to my family.

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# Worldwide

## United Nations

**June 15:** International Criminal Court Judge Sanji Mmasenono Monageng, speaking for the appeals judges, ruled that the court has the authority to prosecute Congolese rebel leader Bosco Ntaganda—whose trial was underway—for the alleged rape and sexual slavery of child soldiers by members of the armed group in which they were serving. Ntaganda had pleaded not guilty to 13 charges.

**July 6:** The UN Security Council added Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a Pakistani Taliban faction, to a list of organizations and individuals subject to freezing of assets, a travel ban and an arms embargo.

**July 20:** The UN Security Council unanimously imposed sanctions against eight individuals and businesses linked to ISIS and al-Qaeda, including ISIS leaders in Southeast Asia, ISIS-affiliated extremist groups in Syria, foreign fighters from the Caucasus and illicit money exchange businesses.

**September 21:** Leaders from the UK, France, and Italy called on tech companies to take down online posts that promote terrorism within an hour or two. British Prime Minister Theresa May said the average lifetime of an ISIS posting went from six days to 36 hours in the first six months of 2017. French President Emmanuel Macron and Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni echoed her sentiments.

# Africa

## Burkina Faso

**January 27:** Heavily armed jihadis forced their way into schools in Baraboule commune in northern Burkina Faso during the week and told teachers to stop instructing in French and focus only on Islam and the Koran. No injuries were reported.

**February 27:** Jihadis were suspected in nighttime attacks on Baraboule and Tongomayel communities in the north. The assailants torched the premises of security forces.

**March 3:** Jihadis on motorbikes shot to death a school headmaster and a resident in Kourfayl near the border with Mali. The attackers rode to nearby villages demanding that schools close. Ansaru Islam claimed credit for an attack earlier in the week.

**March 22:** Security Minister Simon Compaore said Burkinabe military forces killed a key jihadi aide to the Ansaru Islam leader, seized weapons and ammunition, and arrested 18 other AI members in the country's north, close to the border with Mali.

**July 24:** Residents of Sibe, Neyda, and Ndidja said Ansaru Islam gunmen on motorbikes attacked their villages and killed five people.

**August 13:** *Reuters, Radio France Internationale* and the *Washington Post* reported that two (some reports said four) suspected jihadis on motorcycles raided the Aziz Istanbul Turkish restaurant in central Ouagadougou at 8 p.m., taking assault rifles out of their bags and shooting diners on the terrace outside the restaurant, killing 18 people, mostly children and women, and wounding between eight and 20 others, including a Turkish citizen. Among the dead were seven Burkina Faso citizens, two Canadians, two Kuwaitis, and one person each from France, Senegal, Nigeria, Lebanon and Turkey. The restaurant was packed with a birthday party. The next morning, after a seven-hour gun battle, security forces shot dead two attackers and freed hostages trapped inside the building. Three members of Burkina Faso's security forces were wounded. 17081301

## Burundi

**July 9:** During the night, a grenade went off in a bar in the Gatara commune in Kayanza Province, killing eight people. The attackers fled.

## Cameroon

**January 31:** Self-defense vigilantes told soldiers they saw three bombers cross from Nigeria toward a village six miles from the border. The three bombers, two of them women, ran from soldiers and set off their explosives in a place where cattle ranchers assemble to rest, killing a 33-year-old resident of the village. 17013101

Gunmen killed a UN independent contractor of undisclosed nationality, three Nigerians, and a Cameroonian and wounded several others in an afternoon attack near Kontcha. The victims were members of a technical monitoring team on a field mission related to border demarcation. 17013102

**March 14:** Minister of Communication Issa Tchiroma Bakary announced that Cameroonian and Nigerian soldiers had freed more than 5,000 hostages, including women and children, killed at least 60 Boko Haram fighters, arrested 21 suspects, and destroyed an insurgent refuge center in the Mandara highlands, a petroleum depot, and an explosives factory in operations since January 26.

**May 24:** *UPI* reported on May 25 that Cameroonian General Bouba Dobekreo said that during the night, Boko Haram kidnapped three women in Gakara in the Far North Region, which borders Nigeria's Borno state. An anonymous vigilance committee source told *Anadolu Agency* that the "abductees were taken to Kerawa in Nigeria by the armed men." 17052402

**June 2:** Two girls believed from Nigeria set off their suicide bombs at a camp for those displaced by Boko Haram, killing eleven people in Molofata in the Far North Region. Several dozen were wounded, including 15 hospitalized in Mora. 17060201

**July 12:** Two female suicide bombers attacked Waza during the night, killing 15 people and injuring 42. One set off explosives near a group of youths. Boko Haram was suspected. 17071201

**August 24:** During nighttime attacks on two villages near Mora in the Far North Province, Boko Haram was suspected when terrorists killed 16 people, including the husband of Iya Gana, stole vehicles and cattle, and burned homes. 17082401

**September 13:** A girl suicide bomber hit a mosque in Sanda-Wadjiri in the morning, killing four people near the Nigeria border. 17091301

# Central African Republic

**January 3:** MINUSCA's interim spokeswoman Uwolowulakana Ikavi-Gbétanou said that gunmen ambushed a UN MINUSCA convoy accompanying fuel trucks near Mboki, killing two Moroccan peacekeepers and seriously wounding a third.

**February 8:** Militia members attacked a health center in Bangui's PK5 neighborhood, seeking to kill the two dozen wounded after renewed violence left at least five people dead, including a pastor. UN and Central African security forces returned fire, killing local militia leader Youssouf Sy, alias Big Man, and one of his associates. Sy's followers torched two churches in retaliation, killing pastor Jean Paul Sankagui. 17020803

**March 30:** Michael Omana, communications chief for Lord's Resistance Army leader Joseph Kony, surrendered to Ugandan forces. LRA abducted Omana in 1994.

**May 15:** The *Voice of America* reported that militias attacked Muslims in Bangassou over several days, killing 30 civilians and six UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA) peacekeepers. 17051501

**June 20:** Gun battles in Bria between the anti–Balaka militia and FPRC former Seleka rebels killed 100 people and hospitalized dozens at a hospital run by Doctors Without Borders. Red Cross teams could not safely collect bodies for burial.

**July 23:** Anti-Balaka militias were suspected of killing a UN peacekeeper from Morocco in Bangassou and wounding three other peacekeepers. 17072301

**July 26:** The anti–Balaka militia was suspected when gunmen killed two Moroccan UN peacekeepers and wounded a third in Bangassou. The peacekeepers had been restocking water for the town's humanitarian needs when they were attacked. 17072601

**August 9:** Gunmen killed six Red Cross volunteers who were in Mbomou Prefecture attending a crisis meeting at a health facility.

**October 20:** The UN announced that two peacekeepers were wounded in clashes with mostly Christian anti–Balaka militias who attacked Pombolo. 17102001

# Chad

**March 23:** In the morning, gunmen in the Sila region, 31 miles from Goz-Beida and south of the mining town of Abeche, kidnapped a French citizen employed by a private company and took him to Darfar, Sudan. The kidnappers demanded a ransom. On May 7 *AP* reported that the hostage was released. The *Voice of America* reported that he was freed in a raid organized by France, Chad and Sudan. Five kidnappers were arrested. No ransom was paid and no one was hurt. 17032301

**May 5:** *UPI* reported on May 8 that nine Chadian soldiers and 40 Boko Haram terrorists were killed in a clash in Kaiga, a Chadian army position on Lake Chad that began on May 5. 17050501

# Congo

**February 14:** A police operation against members of the separatist political and religious Bundu Dia Mayala movement at founder Ne Mwanda Nsemi's home left two members dead. Jean Onema Wembo, mayor of the Ngiri-Ngiri commune, said two others were killed elsewhere in clashes between police and suspected members. Another 22 suspected members were arrested, and eight others were wounded in the raid. The group says it seeks the rehabilitation of the pre-colonial Kongo kingdom.

**February 22–23:** Major Ndjike Kaiko announced that the army had killed 16 former M23 rebels near Rutshuru after they re-entered the country's east and captured 68 former M23 members; another 39 surrendered.

**March 1:** Kabambare administrator Balthazar Hemedi Kabemba said that during the night, gunmen kidnapped five workers from Banro Mining Corporation's Namoya gold mine in eastern Congo, including two from France, two from Congo, and one from Tanzania. The rebel Rahiya Mutomboki group had left leaflets around the mines threatening its workers. The kidnappers demanded from the mining company a ransom and a contract to construct basic infrastructure in the area, including roads. On May 28, the *Voice of America* reported that militiamen on May 27 freed a French national and three Congolese hostages. The Tanzanian was freed earlier. 17030102

**March 10:** Presiding Judge Lt. Col. Jean-Paulin Esosa Basema sentenced to death nine Allied Democratic Forces rebels and acquitted two others for crimes against humanity, terrorism and participation in a rebellion. A third defendant was transferred to a court

for minors. The trial of more than 100 defendants began in December 2016.

**March 13:** *NBC News* reported that gunmen kidnapped American UN official Michael Sharp, 34; Swedish UN worker Zahida Katalan, variant Zaida Catalan; interpreter Betu Tshintela; driver Isaac Kabuayi; and two motorbike drivers near a remote village south of Kananga in Kasai Central Province. Sharp was working as a coordinator with the United Nations Group of Experts for the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO). *AP* reported that it was the first recorded disappearance of international workers in the Kasai Provinces. On March 28, *AP* reported that three bodies, including those of a male and female Caucasian, were found in shallow graves in Central Kasai Province. The *New York Times* reported that on March 31, Katou Bensoudfa, chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, said the killings could constitute war crimes. On April 14, *AP* reported that Major General Joseph Ponde Isambwa announced in Kinshasa that a suspect was arrested in connection with the deaths. A second suspect escaped.

On May 20, *AP* reported that authorities said two suspects would be tried for the kidnap/killings. The Congolese government obtained a cell phone video showing them being killed. It blamed the Kamwina Nsapu militia. Military prosecutor Colonel Odon Makutu Mwendele said two of the 16 suspects would be tried for war crimes, including murder and mutilation, plus charges of terrorism and supporting a rebel group.

*AP* reported on June 5 that six suspects appeared in a Congo military court to answer charges in the March murders. Two suspects faced murder charges in Kananga in Kasai Central Province; the other four suspects were charged with facilitating the escape of suspects. They were represented by attorney Tresor Kapangu.

*AP* reported on July 11 that Congo's UN Ambassador Ignace Gata Mavita announced the arrest of eleven people, including eight people identified as "having played a direct role" in the murders in March of UN experts American Michael Sharp and Zaida Catalan of Sweden and the four Congolese men accompanying them, whose bodies have not been found.

On December 30, *UPI* reported that authorities confirmed that the bodies of Zaida Catalan and Michael Sharp were found on March 27. Catalan had been decapitated. On December 30, authorities arrested Constantin Tshidime Bulabula, the suspected mastermind of the kidnapping in Bunkonde, where the duo was investigating human rights abuses for the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of Congo. A military spokesman said that Tshidime Bulabula is chief of a town south of where the killings took place. He was taken into custody about 60 miles from his home, and was taken to Kananga with another suspect, Tresor Mputu. The Congolese army said the killers were members of the Kamwina Nsapu militia, of which Bulabula was a member. 17031302

**March 18:** Security forces killed 15 Ninja Nsiloulou militia rebels during an operation in the Pool region. Police said they had been trained in explosives and were preparing to commit a series of attacks along the railway between Pool and Brazzaville. Police seized weapons and ammunition in Madzia.

**March 24:** *UPI* and *AP* reported that members of the Kamwina Nsapu militia ambushed a group of police between Tshikapa and Kananga in Central Kasai province and decapitated 42 of them. Militia members freed six policemen because they spoke the local Tshiluba language.

**April 19:** Investigators announced finding another 17 mass graves in central Congo, bringing the number to 40 discovered since August 2016.

**June 2:** Allied Democratic Forces rebels took eleven hostages in Mamundioma village. The captives were freed on June 4 following days of fighting near the Virunga National Park. A local rights group based in Beni said more than 100 hostages remained.

**June 22:** The army killed 13 gunmen and captured 15 in Beni. Three soldiers died and seven other people were wounded, including students taking exams. The National Revolutionaries Movement, a rebel coalition including the Mai Mai group, Allied Democratic Forces and former M23 members who escaped prison, was suspected of bombing a school and attempting attacks on a women's prison, a police station and the town hall.

**June 29:** On July 3, *AP* reported that Captain Dieudonne Kasereka, army spokesman in South Kivu, said four rebels and one soldier had died in fighting with an armed militia in South Kivu Province since June 29. He added that Mai Mai rebels had taken over four localities in Fizi territory. Fizi civil society leader Josue Lwanusha said the militia was holding 18 Tanzanian and three Ugandan drivers. 17062901

**July 14:** Police Colonel Pierrot Mwanamputu said terrorists armed with guns and machetes attacked Kinshasa's main market in the afternoon, killing the administrator of the market and the deputy commissioner of police and seriously wounding six police officers. On attacker was captured; the others left behind their AK-47s and fled.

**September 17:** The United Nations mission in Congo announced that a Tanzanian peacekeeper was shot to death during an attack by suspected Allied Democratic Forces 500 meters from a UN base in Beni territory in North Kivu Province. Another Tanzanian peacekeeper was injured. 17091702

**October 8:** During the night, Ugandan ADF rebels attacked twelve miles from Beni in North Kivu Province, killing ten people. David Muhaze, president of a civil society organization, said 22 people were missing. 17100801

**October 9:** In the morning, Ugandan ADF rebels attacked near a UN base in Mamundioma, 22 miles from Beni, killing two Tanzanian peacekeepers, injuring 18, and seizing weapons. 17100901

**December 7:** Gunmen attacked a UN MONUSCO peacekeeping mission's base 27 miles from Beni in North Kivu Province, killing 15 Tanzanian peacekeepers and five Congolese soldiers and wounding 53 others, three critically, in a nighttime attack that lasted three hours. Three Force Intervention Brigade peacekeepers were missing. The attackers fired rocket-propelled grenades and destroyed an armored personnel carrier. The Allied Democratic Forces was suspected. On December 22, Ugandan forces attacked the ADF rebels suspected of killing the peacekeepers and "were planning to conduct hostile activities against Uganda." The same day, a 15th Tanzanian peacekeeper died. On December 27, the Ugandan military said it had killed more than 100 rebels and wounded numerous others in eastern Congo believed involved in the attack. 17120701

# Ethiopia

**January 3:** *Fana Broadcasting Corporate* reported that a court sentenced 20 Muslims to prison after they were found guilty in December 2016 of trying to establish a state ruled by Sharia law and inciting violence. All but one received prison terms of five and one half years. Two were journalists working for a Muslim radio station. The court ruled that the 20 defendants also were found to be "participating in a movement to secure the release of another Muslim group that was under detention." They were represented by attorney Mustafa Safi, who said he would appeal.

**March 1:** Deputy government spokesman Zadig Abraha told the state-affiliated *Fana Broadcasting Corporate* that earlier in the week, the government had "completely annihilated" 20 members of an Eritrea-backed group who planned to attack the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam. He added that "actions were taken" against 13 members of the Benishangul Peoples Liberation Movement; the other members escaped to Sudan, which then handed them over. On April 13, *AP* and *Fana Broadcasting* reported that the government said that ten rebels who attacked vehicles headed to the massive Dam project and killed nine people had been sentenced to prison sentences ranging from nine years to life. Eritrea denied training and equipping the rebels. 17030101

**April 28:** The state-affiliated *Fana Broadcasting Corporate* reported that two men, Bedris Yesuf and Anis Usman, accused of trying to establish an al-Shabaab cell, were sentenced to six years in prison. The Ethiopian Federal Attorney General said they were arrested three years earlier while planning a terrorist attack.

**May 17:** The Ethiopian Federal High Court sentenced 23 people to up to 15 years in prison for establishing links to al-Qaeda and al-Shabaab. They were accused of planning to carry out terror attacks inside Ethiopia. *Fana Broadcasting Corporate* quoted the court as saying three defendants had been planning to establish an Islamic state. The defendants were active between 2010 and 2014 in six cities, including Addis Ababa. They recruited individuals and sent them to Somalia for training.

**December 3:** Gunmen killed a German national and wounded a local guide in an attack near a volcanic lake at Erta Ale in the Afar region. 17120301

# Ghana

**June 22:** The Supreme Court declared "unconstitutional" the decision by former President John Mahama to allow former Guantanamo Bay detainees Mahmud Umar Muhammad Bin Atef and Khalid Muhammad Salih al-Dhuby entry into Ghana, saying he needed parliamentary approval for the transfer. The Yemeni duo was cleared for release in 2009. They were the first Guantanamo Bay prisoners resettled in sub–Saharan Africa, arriving in January 2016.

# Kenya

**January 10:** Police arrested two suspects accused of planning an attack in Nairobi. Police spokesman George Kinoti said that Abdulafatah Nur Ali was arrested in Nairobi with a fraudulent national ID card and refugee certificate, and that Farah Shaleh Aden was arrested in Garissa.

**March 2:** Three gunmen with pistols kidnapped three Kenyan teachers with the Udha Academy in the Hagadera section of Dadaab refugee camp, which holds more than 200,000 Somali refugees. The gunmen were believed to have come from Somalia. No group claimed credit. Al-Shabaab was suspected. 17030201

**March 27:** Police in Malindi arrested three alleged international human traffickers—two Kenyans and a Somali—suspected of smuggling recruits for, and helping to finance, ISIS. Two of the men were on a Kenyan wanted list with a $20,000 reward for information leading to their arrest. Somali-born Ali Hussein Ali was accused of being recruited by ISIS after he left Kenya in 2010 and returned in November 2016.

**April 6:** The Anti-Terrorism Police Unit arrested a

Kenyan and a Ugandan for hacking into government sites for the Islamic State.

**May 12:** Suspected al-Shabaab terrorists killed two quarry workers in Mandera. 17051201

**May 15:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when four gunmen broke into the compound of administrative chief Dekow Abbey Sirat in Omar Jillo in Mandera County during the night, interrogated him, and shot him to death. Two police reservists went missing. 17051502

**May 16:** An al-Shabaab bomb planted to target a police car instead struck a Toyota Land Cruiser near Liboi town near the Somalia border, killing the four occupants, including a child. 17051601

**May 24:** A police vehicle being driven from Kula Police Post toward the Liboi border town hit a mine, killing three police officers and injuring two others. Three other officers were unhurt. Al-Shabaab claimed credit.

A vehicle ran over a mine near the Somali border, killing five Kenyan police officers, including a personal bodyguard for the governor of Mandera County, Ali Roba, whose convoy was targeted.

**May 25:** A bomb killed two Kenyan police officers near where four officers died the day before. Two injured officers were airlifted from Liboi to Nairobi. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**May 31:** Seven members of the Rural Patrol Border Unit and a civilian in Mangai were killed when their Chinese-made armored personnel vehicle ran over a roadside bomb. The vehicle was en route to refuel. Kenyan army rescuers came under fire. Al-Shabaab claimed credit. 17053102

**June 6:** A vehicle belonging to African Development Solutions hit a mine near the Dadaab refugee camp in Garissa County, killing four Kenyan aid workers. Al-Shabaab was suspected. 17060602

During a joint operation by Kenyan military and police to find al-Shabaab terrorists planting mines, a vehicle with security officers hit a mine in the Girelle area of Wajir County. No injuries were reported. 17060603

**June 16:** A bomb killed four people and critically injured the other eleven in a passenger vehicle traveling along the Elwak-Mandera route. Al-Shabaab was suspected. A government chief was injured.

**June 23:** Northeastern Regional Security Coordinator Mohamud Saleh said that four suspected jihadi gunmen killed two civilians and a policeman and wounded three others at a bank in Elwak in Mandera County, which borders Somalia. The gunmen drove off toward Somalia. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

The Kenyan Red Cross reported that a car ran over a homemade bomb in Mandera, but the two people inside were unhurt.

**June 27:** A truck rolled over a bomb in Kiunga in Lamu County, killing four policemen and four children who were traveling in the truck.

**July 3:** Magistrate Miriam Mugure allowed the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit to hold Nairobi-based police officer Waiss Abdulaziz Mohammed for 30 days while he was investigated for *Facebook* posts that were alleged to support Islamic extremism. Mohammed worked for the National Disaster Management Unit. Authorities said he allegedly posted on June 5 that he was going to face death soon, and allegedly posted on June 20 that he was bound to die and kill people. The Anti-Terrorism Police Unit claimed that he posted that he had several opportunities with al-Shabaab.

**July 5:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when 100 gunmen attacked the Pandaguo village center in Lamu County, killing three police officers, wounding seven others, and burning the local police post, a primary school and a dispensary. The military and police retook the center after a seven-hour gun battle.

**July 8:** Fifteen al-Shabaab terrorists conducted an early-morning attack on Jima village in the Pandaguo area in Lamu County, beheading nine civilians. 17070801

**July 13:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when gunmen briefly took hostage Maryam Elmaawy, a senior public works official, in an attack on her convoy en route to visit families who had fled recent al-Shabaab attacks in the southeast. Two police officers and a civilian were killed. Two other vehicles were briefly held and released. The gunmen drove her car into the Boni Forest. The military rescued her but she was injured. 17071301

**July 29:** *BBC, AP,* the *Star* newspaper and the *Daily Nation* reported that at noon, a man armed with a machete attacked the compound of Deputy President William Ruto's home in Eldoret in Uasin Gishu County after Ruto left for a campaign rally in Kitale with President Uhuru Kenyatta. The man wounded a guard at the gate and entered the compound. Witnesses heard several gunshots; he had stolen a rifle and killed another guard. Police found the intruder in an unfinished building and killed him 18 hours after he attacked.

**July 31:** The body of Christopher Msando, an official key to running the scheduled August 8 presidential election, was found tortured and killed. He had injuries to the neck and head. He had been reported missing days earlier. Msando had managed information technology systems for the electoral commission, including using biometric technology to identify voters and electronic transmission of results.

**August 2:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when gunmen attacked vehicles in Lamu County and killed three people. Gunmen hidden in bushes fired at a bus that

was traveling from Mombasa to Kipini in the afternoon when fighters shot at it, injuring five people before police escorts returned fire. Gunmen attacked a private vehicle on the same road and torched it, killing its three passengers. The terrorists also torched two motorbikes. 17080202

**August 3:** Al-Shabaab attacked the Lafey police station in Mandera County in the morning, killing a Kenyan policeman and burning two vehicles. 17080301

**August 7:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when an explosion at an electricity pylon created a blackout in Lamu County on the eve of national elections.

A roadside bomb believed planted by al-Shabaab nearby injured two people travelling in a truck.

**August 15:** Al-Shabaab was suspected of killing five police officers by setting off a mine under a patrol car carrying seven officers in Garissa County. Gunmen then fired on the vehicle. One officer was injured and another escaped. 17081501

**August 18:** Suspected al-Shabaab gunmen beheaded three people and burnt houses in Maleli village near Witu in Lamu County. 17081802

**September 3:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when two gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death two guards at a church near the Indian Ocean coast. The gunmen took the officers' guns and drove off. 17090301

**September 6:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when terrorists shot and decapitated four people in the early morning in the Bobo area of Hindi village in Lamu County. 17090601

**October 9:** Kenya's military announced it had shot to death five suspected al-Shabaab terrorists in the Bodhei area of Lamu County.

**October 10:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when gunmen killed two female employees of the Technical University of Mombasa in Ukunda, 19 miles southwest of Mombasa. The duo was in a vehicle carrying university staff and police near the campus.

**October 24:** Nairobi police chief Japheth Koome said Titus Musyoka, the police driver of Deputy Chief Justice Philomena Mwilu, was shot and seriously wounded the evening before the Supreme Court was to hear an application to postpone the scheduled October 26 elections. Musyoka, in uniform, had come to buy flowers when he was fired on by two men who arrived on a motorbike. The gunmen, one armed with a pistol, tried to force Muysoka back into his official vehicle and but he resisted and reached for his gun. One person shouted, "Finish him," and they shot him in the mouth and twice in the chest, then stole Muysoka's gun.

# Lesotho

**June 14:** Gunmen killed Lipolelo Alice Thabane, 58, the estranged wife of prime minister-elect Thomas Thabane, outside her home in Maseru. *Reuters* said that she was traveling home with a friend when a gunman fired on them in Masana, outside Maseru. The friend was hospitalized. The prime minister was scheduled to be inaugurated on June 16. Thabane, a former prime minister, fled the country in 2014 out of concern that soldiers planned to assassinate him. The couple had been living separately since 2012 after Thabane filed for divorce.

# Mali

**January 11:** In the morning, a roadside bomb exploded under an armed forces vehicle, killing five soldiers and wounding three on the road between Diafarabe and Macina. AQIM was suspected.

**January 18:** At 9 a.m., a suicide truck bomber drove through the gate at a camp in Gao where 600 Operational Coordination Mechanism men from two progovernment militias and the Malian army were based, then killed 77 people, including army personnel, members of pro-government forces, and fighters from autonomous armed groups, and injured 150 people. AQIM was suspected. The unit had been trained by United Nations peacekeepers and French soldiers; no UN or French troops were hurt. *Reuters* reported that AQIM said its ally al-Mourabitoun was responsible, saying it was punishing groups cooperating with France. AQIM said one of the five suicide bombers was Abdul Hadi al-Fulani, adding, "We do not permit the establishment of barracks and bases or the convening of patrols and convoys belonging to the French occupiers, to wage war against the mujahideen."

**February 7:** During the night, gunmen kidnapped a Colombian working with the Catholic Church in Karangana, near the border with Burkina Faso. 17020701

**March 2:** Leaders from Ansar Dine, al-Mourabitoun and al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb released a video announcing their merger into Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (Support of Islam and Muslims), and pledged alleged to al-Qaeda's leader, presumably Ayman al-Zawahiri. Iyad Ag Ghaly, former leader of Ansar Dine and a native of the Kidal region, was named the group's leader.

**March 5:** Suspected jihadis from Burkina Faso attacked a Malian military post in Boulikessi, killing 17 Malian soldiers and wounding dozens. The Ansaroul Islam was suspected. Mauritania's state-run news agency reported on March 10 that the newly formed Mali-based Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen, which merged Ansar Dine, al-Mourabitoun and al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, claimed credit. 17030501

**March 13:** French forces arrested eight jihadis near Foum El Alba in the desert north of Timbuktu. Seven identified themselves as al-Qaeda in the Islamic

Maghreb fighters. The eighth was arrested separately while on his motorcycle.

**March 24:** During the night, gunmen attacked a military post in Almoustarat, killing three soldiers and injuring four others before leaving with military vehicles and weapons. The area is infested with drug traffickers and jihadi groups, including al-Mourabitoun.

**April 5:** In an overnight battle with terrorists in the southwest, a French soldier died. 17040501

**April 18:** Lieutenant Colonel Diarran Kone said gunmen attacked an army camp in Gourma-Rharous, killing four soldiers, wounding another, destroying six armed vehicles, but failing to take control of the camp and fled in two pick-up trucks. French and Malian armed forces killed a dozen jihadis, according to French Operation Barkhane.

Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen claimed responsibility for a similar attack on Malian forces in Tagharost, storming elite force barracks and taking vehicles.

A United Nations peacekeeping mission vehicle escorting a logistics convoy hit a land mine 18 miles south of Tessalit in the Kidal region, wounding two peacekeepers and one civilian. Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen claimed responsibility. 17041801

**April 29–30:** French soldiers participating in Operation Barkhane in the Sahel region killed 20 jihadis in the Foulsare forest on the border between Mali and Burkina Faso and seized a large amount of arms, ammunition, rocket launchers and explosives.

**May 2:** Gunmen ambushed a military convoy between Diabaly and Nampala, killing ten Malian soldiers and injuring nine others. Jihadis were suspected.

**May 3:** Six rockets were fired at the United Nations peacekeeping mission's camp near Timbuktu's airport, killing one person of undisclosed nationality and injuring eight Liberians and one Swede. Four of the wounded were in serious condition. No one claimed credit. 17050302

**May 23:** Gunmen ambushed a MINUSMA UN peacekeeping patrol in Kidal outside Aguelhok, killing two Chadian peacekeepers and wounding a third peacekeeper. 17052301

**June 1:** Terrorists fired mortar rounds at a UN MINUSMA peacekeeping camp in Timbuktu, injuring several French soldiers, one seriously. 17060101

**June 2:** Operation Barkhane officials announced that French soldiers had killed 20 jihadis in the Serma forest at the border with Burkina Faso.

**June 9:** AQIM fired rockets and mortars at a United Nations camp east of Kidal, killing three Guinean peacekeepers and wounding several others. AQIM said, "It resulted in killing and wounding a number of Guinean soldiers participating in this Crusader alliance that invades this good land." 17060901

**June 18:** Four suspected jihadi gunmen yelling "Allah Akbar" attacked the Campement Kangaba resort hotel 30 minutes from Bamako, taking hostages in a spot popular with foreigners. One arrived on a motorcycle at 3:40 p.m. yelling "Allah Akbar," jumped off, and ran toward the pool. A car with three other terrorists entered the resort and fired. A French soldier on vacation shot and wounded a jihadi who later died of his wounds. A French-Gabonese dual citizen, a Portuguese soldier, a Chinese citizen, and a Malian civilian were killed. Numerous others were injured. French forces were involved in rescuing 32 hostages. The grounds include a hotel, bars, restaurant, spa, swimming pools, live entertainment, bike rides and kayaking on the Niger River. *CNN* reported that two gunmen were killed and the third was missing. Three UN staff members were hospitalized. Authorities found four jerry cans of an undetermined material. The Portuguese soldier was part of a European Union training mission. EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said the Malian victim worked for the European delegation in Bamako. National police director Moussa Ag Infahi said three terrorists were killed and one escaped. Mali authorities later said the four gunmen were killed. The next day, the newly formed Mali-based Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen claimed credit. 17061803

**July 1:** The Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen issued a proof-of-life video on *Telegram* showing hostages Stephen McGowan of South Africa, Elliot Kenneth Arthur of Australia, Iulian Ghergut of Romania, Beatrice Stockly of Switzerland, Gloria Cecilia Narvaez of Colombia and Sophie Petronin of France. A narrator said, "No genuine negotiations have begun to rescue your children." The narrator cited the recently elected French President Emmanuel Macron, saying that Petronin "is hoping that the new French president will come to her rescue." McGowan was kidnapped in 2011 from a hostel in Timbuktu. Narvaez, a nun, was kidnapped in February 2017 near the border with Burkina Faso.

**July 9:** The *Voice of America* reported on July 12 that jihadis attacked an army convoy on the road between Gao and Menako. Ten Malian soldiers were reported missing.

**August 14:** In the morning, gunmen fired at UN peacekeepers and Malian troops in Douentza, in the Mopti region, killing a Malian soldier and wounding two Togolese peacekeepers. Two soldiers and two gunmen were killed when UN peacekeepers fired back. 17081401

In the afternoon, gunmen attacked the UN peacekeeping mission's headquarters in Timbuktu. 17081402

**August 20:** A convoy of UN peacekeepers hit a roadside bomb along the road between the northern towns of Aguel'hoc and Tessalit, injuring nine peacekeepers. 17082003

**September 5:** A UN peacekeeping mission convoy hit a mine in Kidal region, killing two Chadian peacekeepers and seriously injuring two other Chadian peacekeepers, who were evacuated. 17090501

**September 24:** A UN peacekeeping convoy hit a land mine at 7 a.m., killing three peacekeepers, including Bangladeshis, and wounding five others traveling from the Gao region. 17092403

**October 19:** The Islam and Muslim Support Group aired a video, dated October 1, through *MENASTREAM* that reportedly showed eleven Malian soldiers held hostage by an extremist group linked to al-Qaeda. The soldiers, clad in gray, asked Mali's government and President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita to find a solution to achieve their release. The soldiers were captured during attacks between July 2016 and March 2017.

**October 26:** Three UN peacekeepers were killed and two others injured when their vehicle hit a mine during the afternoon on the road between Tessalit and Aguelhok. Their nationalities were not specified. 17102601

**October 31:** The Malian affiliate of al-Qaeda said it attacked the convoy of the president of Mali's High Court in central Mali. Although he was not harmed, the Malian army said his driver and five other soldiers who responded to the attack were killed. The group claimed it fired on the convoy and then targeted the soldiers with an explosive device.

**November 24:** Two attacks killed four UN peacekeepers and a Malian soldier and injured 21 others.

Jihadis attacked UN peacekeepers working with Malian defense forces during the morning in Indelimane, 43 miles west of Menaka near the Niger border, killing three peacekeepers from Niger and a Malian soldier and injuring 17 soldiers and a civilian working for the UN. Three gunmen died. 17112401

Later that day, gunmen fired rocket launchers at a UN convoy north of Douentza in the Mopti region, killing a peacekeeper and seriously injuring three others. 17112402

# Mozambique

**October 5:** The Portuguese news agency *Lusa* reported that a gunman killed Mahamudo Amurane, 44, the mayor of Nampula, after he delivered a speech about peace efforts on the 25th anniversary of the signing of an accord that ended the country's civil war. The gunman shot him three times at close range. Amurane was a member of the MDM opposition party, and had spoken about talks to end tensions between the ruling Frelimo party and the Renamo opposition group, which fought each other in the war that ended in 1992.

# Niger

**February 22:** Jihadis attacked an army patrol near Interzawane in the Tillaberi region near the Mali border, killing 15 soldiers and wounding 19 soldiers.

**April 10:** The Ministry of Defense announced that security forces killed 57 Boko Haram terrorists who had attacked Gueskerou village in the Diffa region overnight. Some 15 soldiers and two civilians were wounded. Authorities seized arms and ammunition. 17041001

**June 28:** The UN announced that during the night two female suicide bombers attacked the Kabelawa camp for internally displaced people in Niger's Diffa region, killing two people and wounding eleven.

**July 2:** Boko Haram terrorists arrived on camels and horses during the night, killed nine people, and took 40 hostages, mostly women and children, from NGalewa village in Niger's southeast. They demanded that other terrorists be released from prison. 17070201

**October 4:** Around 11:40 a.m., some 40 to 50 Mali-based gunmen on a dozen vehicles and 20 motorcycles overwhelmed a joint U.S.—Nigerien patrol leaving a meeting with tribal leaders in the Tillaberi region of southwest Niger, 125 miles north of Niamey near the Mali border. The terrorists fired RPGs and heavy machine guns near the remote village of Tongo Tongo. The Pentagon believed the terrorists had IS links. *NBC News, CNN, Military Times* and *AP* reported that four U.S. Army Green Beret special operations commandos and four or five Nigerien soldiers were killed and two U.S. and eight Nigerien soldiers were wounded. French military Super Puma helicopters evacuated the wounded. Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb terrorists were suspected. The Department of Defense said three of the soldiers who were killed were Staff Sgt. Bryan C. Black, 35, of Puyallup, Washington; Staff Sgt. Jeremiah W. Johnson, 39, of Springboro, Ohio; and Staff Sgt. Dustin M. Wright, 29, of Lyons, Georgia. The soldiers were assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The Pentagon later announced that the fourth soldier was Sgt. La David Johnson, 25, whose body was recovered on October 6. He was a member of the same airborne group. He hailed from Miami Gardens, Florida. He enlisted in January 2014 as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. He earned the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Parachutist Badge, the Army Air Assault Badge, the Driver and Mechanic Badge, and the Marksmanship Qualification Badge–Sharpshooter with Rifle.

The *Washington Post* reported on October 18 that Cowanda Jones-Johnson was present during a condolence phone call from the White House to her son's (La David Johnson) widow, Myeshia Johnson, observing "President Trump did disrespect my son and my daughter and also me and my husband." Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D–Fla.) earlier said that President Trump told Johnson's widow that her husband "must have known what he signed up for." Wilson said she heard the call on speakerphone while riding in a limousine with Johnson. Trump tweeted "Democratic Congresswoman totally fabricated what I said to the wife of a soldier who died in action (and I have proof). Sad!"

*AP* reported on November 10 that Sgt. La David Johnson's body was found on October 6 by children tending cattle, that his arms were tied and there was a gaping wound at the back of his head, according to two villagers. His body was a mile away from the other soldiers' corpses. Observers suggested that he may have been captured and then executed. The uniforms of the four dead soldiers were missing. A military investigation indicated on December 18 that Johnson was hit by 18 bullets from M-4 rifles and Soviet-made heavy machine guns as he took cover in thick brush, fighting to the end. He was not captured alive or killed at close range.

A U.S. military official said that it appeared that the soldiers' mission changed after they left their base in Niamey. The unit apparently was rerouted to help another military team target senior IS terrorist Dadou, who was code-named "Naylor Road" by the U.S. military. Bad weather prevented the commandos from reaching the area. Some observers blamed an intelligence failure. 17100401

**October 21:** Gunmen killed 13 soldiers and wounded five others in Ayorou near the border with Mali.

# Nigeria

**January:** Two Turks were kidnapped from an international school in Ogun State. They were released eleven days later. 17019901

**January 4:** Civilian self-defense fighters killed three girl suicide bombers approaching a bustling market in a village near Madagali town in the northeast. When challenged, the girls ran toward the checkpoint and the fighters shot her in the head, activating her explosives and killing her and a companion. The third girl tried to flee and was gunned down. Boko Haram was suspected.

**January 8:** Five suicide bombers trying to get past the Maiduguri suburbs died in explosions that killed at least three civilians. Police blamed Boko Haram. Three men strapped into explosive vests fired assault rifles at a military checkpoint at 8:20 p.m. One exploded, killing all three and a civilian self-defense fighter. At 10:20 p.m., two female suicide bombers killed themselves and two other people.

**January 13:** Three suicide bombers hit a checkpoint at the weekly market of vegetables, meat and livestock in Madagali, killing two self-defense fighters who challenged them. Boko Haram was blamed.

**January 16:** At dawn, three suicide bombers, including a child, set off their explosives at the University of Maiduguri, killing a university professor and another child. One bomb hit the mosque where professors were saying dawn prayers. The second bomb went off when police patrolling the back of the university shot a 12-year-old girl strapped with a suicide vest. Fifteen people were hospitalized. The National Emergency Management Agency said 17 people were wounded. Boko Haram was suspected. *UPI* reported on January 18 that BH leader Abubakar Shekau issued a video taking credit, saying "the bomb that happened this morning, it's my people. Don't deceive people that it's a mosque, how would you build a mosque and do ungodly things in it.... We are not angry with Nigeria. You didn't kill anyone in Sambisa. We are praying that we don't change; Koran is our teacher; this is the message we are sending to you. Are you [President Buhari] as powerful as God? You should know it's Shekau talking and I'm alive and it's we that did it."

**January 19:** During the evening, more than 100 Boko Haram terrorists attacked a refugee camp in Rann in Borno State two days after Nigeria's air force accidentally bombed it, killing 170. Soldiers battled Boko Haram for hours, killing eight Boko Haram terrorists. One soldier was injured.

**January 23:** Boko Haram was suspected when gunmen killed three people and kidnapped seven women in Ndagu village in the Askira Uba local government area of Borno state.

**January 24–25:** Three suicide bombers killed four people in Maiduguri. A military sniper shot to death a male suicide bomber spotted moving toward a checkpoint during the evening. In the morning, two teen female suicide bombers attacked. Soldiers shot dead the first one, but the second set off her explosives after civilian self-defense fighters stopped her from moving toward a mosque, killing herself and one of the militia.

**January 28:** Boko Haram was suspected when gunmen attacked a convoy between Bulabulin and Dogonwaya villages along the recently secured Maiduguri-Biu highway, killing seven people and injuring many others, including soldiers in a military escort.

**January 31:** A member of a civilian self-defense force stopped a would-be suicide bomber from reaching a mosque in Maiduguri, but the bomber and the hero were killed. It was impossible to determine the age or gender of the bomber.

**February 7:** Soldiers on guard duty saw two young female suicide bombers moving toward a gas station in Maiduguri and ordered them to stop. When the duo continued, the soldiers shot and killed one woman; her colleague surrendered and was disarmed by the soldiers. Boko Haram apparently sent them. The women appeared to be 18.

**February 9:** During the night, Boko Haram ambushed a convoy of new recruits near Mafa, 30 miles east of Maiduguri, killing seven troops and abducting a female soldier.

**February 14:** Minister of Petroleum Ibe Kachikwu released a video in which he said that the country lost between $50 billion and $100 billion in oil revenues to militant attacks on installations in 2016. At one point, the attacks cut production to 1.2 million barrels a day—a loss of a million barrels a day.

**February 15:** Boko Haram fired at an Mi-17 military transport helicopter on a humanitarian mission carrying medical personnel from Maiduguri to treat refugees in the Gwoza area in northeast Nigeria, wounding an airman. Nigerian Air Force spokesman Group Captain Ayodele Famuyiwa said a fighter jet and helicopter gunship retaliated, killing scores of terrorists.

**February 17:** Around midnight, three female suicide bombers hit a truck station in Maiduguri's eastern suburbs, setting off vehicles at Muna Garage near a large refugee camp. Nigerian troops and civilian self-defense fighters battled other terrorists who were on motorcycles. Nine bombers and two civilians were killed and eight self-defense fighters were wounded. *Reuters* said the terrorists were targeting refugees preparing to return to their home villages.

**February 22:** Gunmen shot and killed two villagers at an excavation site and abducted professor Peter Breunig, 65, a German archaeologist, and his 20-something associate, Johannes Behringer, from Jenjela (variant Janjala) village in Kaduna State. The duo was part of a four-person team from Frankfurt's Goethe University collaborating with Nigeria's National Commission for Museum and Monuments to recover relics of the Nok culture, an early Iron Age people considered the earliest ancient civilization of Nigeria, known for their terracotta sculptures. The other two researchers were women who were not touched by the kidnappers. The next day, the kidnappers phoned the site supervisor to demand a ransom of 60 million naira (about $200,000). Governor of Kaduna State Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai announced on February 26 that Nigerian security agents had rescued the two German hostages. Police said it was not clear whether a ransom was paid before the hostages were released on February 25. The kidnappers had directly contacted the German Embassy. 17022201

**March 3:** Three suicide bombers set fire to three fuel tankers in Maiduguri before dawn. An elderly woman bomber blew herself up beside a stationary tanker loaded with fuel around 3 a.m. Soldiers fired at a teen girl bomber accompanied by a teen boy outside a gas station opposite the northeastern headquarters of the Central Bank of Nigeria. The boy set off his explosives near S. Baba gas station. The girl ran under a parked truck loaded with gasoline, which caught fire when her explosives went off. Only the bombers died. Officials blamed Boko Haram.

**March 11:** The *Voice of America* reported that Borno State police spokesman Victor Isuku said that troops shot to death two teenage female suicide bombers as they tried to sneak into Maiduguri during the night. Police later safely detonated the girls' suicide vests, which they had hidden under their clothes. No one else was injured.

Army spokesman Sani Kukasheka Usman said troops rescued 211 civilians in Murye and Mala Maja villages and killed a key Boko Haram operative.

**March 13:** Boko Haram released a video showing the shooting and beheading of three accused spies, deeming them "agents" of Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari.

**March 15:** Four teenaged girl suicide bombers set off explosives worn on their bodies in the morning near Muna Garage on the outskirts of Maiduguri, killing them and two other people and wounding 16 people. Boko Haram was suspected.

**March 16:** Usman Mamman Durkwa, deputy governor of Borno State, said many soldiers may have been killed when Boko Haram burned down a military base in Magumeri during the night.

**March 18:** Boko Haram was suspected when three suicide bombers—a male and two teen girls—set off explosive devices strapped on their bodies at 9 p.m., killing a member of the civilian militia, a woman and two children and injuring eight others in Maiduguri.

**March 20:** During the night, gunmen in cars and on motorcycles attacked Zaki Biam community in Benue State, killing 17 people.

**March 21:** Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau vowed in a 27-minute video to continue to send suicide bombers into Maiduguri until he establishes an Islamic caliphate across West and Central Africa and the country jettisons constitutional rule. He rejected Cameroon's claims that 60 of his men were killed and 5,000 hostages were rescued.

**March 22:** In the morning, five suicide bombers hit locations along the Maiduguri-Gamboru highway, killing eight people, including two who died at a camp for displaced people, and injuring 20.

**April 2:** Two male suicide bombers set of their explosive vests when security officers challenged them

near an entry to Maiduguri in the morning, killing only themselves.

A suicide bomber at a different Maiduguri location killed himself and injured one civilian.

**April 5:** A dog at a morning wedding party in Belbelo village near Maiduguri battled a teenage suicide bomber until her explosives detonated, killing the animal.

**April 9:** Gunmen kidnapped two Turkish workers for the BKS construction company in Eket in Akwa Ibom State. On April 19, police rescued the two hostages and arrested five kidnappers. The kidnappers had demanded a 200 million naira ($655,000) ransom. 17040901

**April 10:** Two female suicide bombers set their explosives off near the fence surrounding the University of Maiduguri, harming only themselves in a predawn attack. Security officers had prevented their entry.

**April 12:** The Department of State Services said in late March it broke up a Boko Haram cell that had "perfected plans to attack" the embassies of the United States and UK along with "other Western interests" in Abuja. DSS arrested five suspects.

**April 27:** In a morning gunbattle, soldiers killed 15 suspected Boko Haram members who attacked a base in the Sambisa forest.

**May 4:** Soldiers killed three female suicide bombers who tried to attack a military outpost.

**May 5:** During the night, two female suicide bombers killed five people in Maiduguri. Boko Haram was suspected.

**May 6:** The British and American governments warned that Boko Haram was planning to kidnap foreigners in northeast Nigeria. The British said BH was targeting Western foreign workers in the Bama area of Borno State, close to the Cameroon border.

**May 13:** *UPI* reported that Boko Haram terrorists on motorcycles looking for food killed eleven farmers with machetes in their fields outside Maiduguri. The village is near the heavily guarded Alau Dam on the Ngadda River.

**May 15:** A suspected reprisal attack in a land dispute killed 20 people in a village mosque.

**May 20:** Nigerian soldiers of the of 8 Task Force Battalion fought Boko Haram in the Lake Chad area for 72 hours, killing 13 jihadis, wounding others, and arresting ten others, including six women believed to have helped smuggle supplies to the insurgents. The troops in the Chikun Gudu, Tumbuma Karami and Tumbuma Baba areas recovered three AK-47 rifles, a pump-action rifle, assorted rifle magazines, 306 rounds of ammunition, a tool box, a freezer and a Toyota truck.

Army troops, acting on a tip, arrested ten suspected Boko Haram smugglers, including six females and four males.

**June 7:** At 9 p.m., dozens of Boko Haram gunmen swarmed the Maiduguri suburbs as Muslims were breaking their Ramadan fast, killing nine people in four locations, including a mosque, and injuring dozens. Four terrorists died in clashes in Maiduguri, Alidawari village and Jiddari Polo suburb, where homes were set on fire. One attacker was captured alive.

**June 11:** Boko Haram ambushed soldiers en route to a BH camp in Jarawa village in Borno State. The soldiers killed numerous insurgents, including senior BH commander Abu Nazir, who was on the military's wanted list, and rescued nine abducted children being trained at the camp.

**June 12:** Soldiers arrested 24 suspected Boko Haram members who were posing as Fulani herdsman in Edo State.

**June 19:** Five female suicide bombers attacked Kofa, near Maiduguri, killing a dozen people. The first attack killed several people near a mosque; five others died in a house.

**June 26:** Suicide bombers, most of them teenage girls, killed nine people in several attacks in Borno State. A civilian died at the University of Maiduguri. Attacks at two residential buildings in the Zannari community killed eight others. Several other young women detonated their explosives without killing others.

**July 11:** Four Boko Haram suicide bombers, including a teen female, killed 19 people and wounded 23 in a series of nighttime attacks on a civilian self-defense force and the people who gathered to mourn their deaths in Maiduguri. A dozen dead were members of a civilian defense force; the other seven were mourners. The attackers hit a sandbag post in Molai and a tea vendor's stand.

**July 17:** A female suicide bomber being chased by local security workers ran into the middle of worshippers in a mosque in Maiduguri and set off her explosives, killing eight and wounding 13. The mosque collapsed. Boko Haram was suspected. Danbatta Bello, spokesman for the Civilian-JTF self-defense force, said, "There were two girls that wanted to attack the mosque but one of them got stuck in barbed wire in the ditch dug near the area, but the second one escaped and began to run as our operatives there began to chase after her…. She rushed to the mosque and detonated the second bomb." The first girl blew up where she was trapped. Two other female suicide bombers were shot and killed in Maiduguri around the time of the mosque bombing.

**July 23–24:** In late-night attacks, female suicide bombers attacked two displaced persons camps in

Maiduguri, killing eight and wounding 15. One bomber entered the Dalori camp and set off her explosives. Two others set off their bombs on or near the camp's perimeter fence. The morning of July 24, another terrorist set off her explosives.

**July 25:** Boko Haram attacked an oil exploration convoy, killing ten military personnel. Ten university geological surveyors were missing and presumed kidnapped. Bunu Bukar, secretary of the self-defense Hunters Association in Borno State, said members of the group saw the bodies of military personnel. Bukar said the attackers were wearing military uniforms and driving new vehicles. The military and Hunters group were providing security for oil exploration workers traveling between Magumeri and Gubio in Borno state. **S**even people were rescued and many attackers were killed in a shoot-out. Zanna Modu, council chairman of the Magumeri local government area, said soldiers rescued four self-defense workers, two Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation personnel and a staffer with the University of Maiduguri. By July 25, the death toll had risen to 48, including 18 soldiers and 30 civilians. On July 29, Boko Haram released a video of three captive geologists calling on the Nigerian government to negotiate their release.

**July 27:** Several female suicide bombers died in an attack near Maiduguri.

**July 28:** Boko Haram was blamed when a female suicide bomber entered a building in Dikwa, killing 14 people and wounding 24 others.

**August 1:** During the night, Boko Haram raided Mildu village near the Sambisa Forest, killing seven people and torching homes and shops.

**August 6:** Two gunmen attacked St. Philip Catholic Church in Anambra State in the morning, killing eleven people and critically wounding 18. One parishioner said more than 15 died. No one claimed credit, and authorities doubted Boko Haram involvement.

**August 7:** Gunmen attacked a passenger bus in Rivers State, taking two hostages. In a firefight, police rescued three other people. The bus driver was wounded.

**August 14:** During the night, Boko Haram killed seven people in attacks in Nyibango and Muduhu in the Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa.

**August 15:** Three suicide bombers entered a market at the Mandarari camp for internally displaced people and at Konduga at 5 p.m., killing 20 people and injuring 80.

**August 22:** *UPI* reported that UNICEF said that Boko Haram used 83 children, including 55 girls and 27 boys, in 2017 as "human bombs." Most of the children were under the age of 15. One of the children used was a baby strapped to an older girl. In 2016, Boko Haram reportedly used only 30 children as suicide bombers.

**August 23:** Boko Haram terrorists entered villages in the Nganzai area, slitting throats and using guns to kill 15 people while injuring two others. The attackers also burned homes.

Boko Haram was suspected of an attack in the Guzamala local council area, killing twelve people and injuring four.

**August 28:** *UPI* reported that senior Boko Haram commando Auwal Ismaeela confessed to heading the 2014 Chibok schoolgirl abduction and surrendered to the Nigerian army in Borno State. He offered to help track down other BH commanders. He also said he led an attack in 2014 in which students at the Central Secondary School in Sabon Garin Madagali were killed. He observed, "It is unfortunate that I was brainwashed and misled not only on some abductions but in the killings of my own people that were innocent. I wholeheartedly regret my actions." During one of his attacks, he kidnapped "my wife named Maryam who had two kids for me in Sambisa Forest." He lost his right leg in an attack in Konduga, but "Even at that, I did not stop fighting for the course…. Sheikh [Abubakar] Shekau ordered that I should be given a tricycle which I continued to use for various operations before I eventually surrendered." He turned himself in "after realizing the misleading sermons, barbaric indoctrination of the sect leaders and atrocities being committed in some of the Boko Haram camps…. I willingly surrendered to the military because I was tired of the senseless killing and fight. I realized that our people have resorted to stealing and all sort of atrocity contrary to the teaching and practice of Islam…. Women were being raped, sometimes publicly. Children died from malnutrition and disease as the living condition became harsher. As there was no food in the camp, people died every day because of hunger."

**September 5:** Amnesty International reported that Boko Haram had killed more than 380 people in the Lake Chad region since April 2017, doubling the casualties of the previous five months. Cameroon experienced at least one suicide attack per week.

**September 8:** Bunu Bukar, the secretary of the Borno State hunters association, said Boko Haram was suspected when terrorists killed nine people at a farm outside Maiduguri. The terrorists kidnapped five farmers on September 6, and another four on September 7. The nine bodies were dumped on September 8 in Gongulong, eight miles east of the state capital. Maiduguri resident Modu Hassan, whose father in-law was killed, said the attackers tied the victims' hands and slit their throats.

**September 18:** *UPI* and *Xinhua* reported that a suicide bomber hit a non-governmental organization's

aid distribution point in Konduga in Borno State, killing 15 people and wounding 43. Iran's *Press TV* blamed two suicide bombers. Boko Haram was suspected.

**October 9:** The trials began of more than 1,600 suspected Boko Haram members behind closed doors at the Wawa Military Cantonment in northern Nigeria.

**October 12:** *ANSA* and *Avvenire*, the newspaper and website of the Italian Catholic Bishops Conference, reported that gunmen kidnapped Italian priest Maurizio Pallu, 63, and four others after arriving in Benin City. He had been working in Nigeria for three years. He worked as a lay missionary before entering a seminary in Rome in 1988. He was later a parish priest in Haarlem, the Netherlands, before being assigned to the archdiocese in Abuja. On October 17, Italian Foreign Ministry Angelino Alfano said Pallu and two Nigerians were released. Pallu said he was kidnapped twice in the last year but hoped to continue working in Nigeria "because you defeat the demons by staying here." 17101201

**October 13:** A court convicted 45 Boko Haram members in the largest mass closed-door trial in the group's history. They were sentenced to between three and 31 years in prison. Another 468 suspects were released, but the court ordered that they undergo deradicalization programs.

Police spokesman Andrew Aniamaka said that four Britons, including a doctor, his wife and two other men who were involved in preaching and providing free medical services to residents, were abducted around 2 a.m. in Enukorowa community in the Burutu local government area in the Niger Delta region. *AP* reported on November 6 that kidnapped British missionary Ian Squire was killed. However, Alanna Carson, medical doctor David Donovan and his wife, Shirley Donovan, were returned to their families. The Donovans worked for New Foundations, a Christian charity providing vaccinations, cataract surgery and other medical treatment to people in the Niger Delta. Carson worked at an optician's office in Leven, Scotland. The families of the four thanked Nigerian authorities for negotiating the release. Nigerian authorities announced on November 9 that two suspects were arrested and a third killed in Warri, an oil region. 17101801

**October 22:** During the evening, a man strapped with explosives attacked in Maiduguri, killing 13 people.

Two female suicide bombers died and more than a dozen other people were injured.

**November:** On December 17 *AP* reported that Pope Francis requested the freedom of six Sisters of the Eucharistic Heart of Christ who were kidnapped in November from their convent in Iguoriakhi, Nigeria.

**November 3:** The Niger Delta Avengers ended its cease-fire with the Nigerian government, which began in August 2016, and accused Nigeria's presidency of being insincere in its peace talks and promises.

**November 15:** Four Boko Haram suicide bombers, including two females, killed 14 and wounded 29 in Maiduguri's Muna Gari suburb during the evening. The first bomb went off on a prayer ground.

**November 21:** *UPI* and *AP* reported that Boko Haram was suspected when a male suicide bomber, 17, attacked worshippers during 5 a.m. prayers at a mosque in Mubi in northeastern Adamawa State, killing 50 people.

**November 25:** *Reuters* reported that suspected Boko Haram members seized Magumeri in northeast Nigeria, forcing residents to hide in a nearby forest.

**December 2:** A female suicide bomber standing in a food handout line set off her explosives, killing 13 people at a market in Biu. A second female bomber killed herself and wounded many others. Boko Haram was suspected.

**December 10:** Two soldiers died when their vehicle hit a Boko Haram-planted mine along the Maiduguri-Damboa highway.

**December 12:** Two teen girl suicide bombers attacked Gwoza in the evening, killing four people. Local defense forces spotted the girls and shot one, detonating her vest and killing her. The second girl infiltrated the crowded residential area in Borno State and detonated herself, killing four others and injuring several people.

**December 16:** In a two-week air and ground operation, soldiers arrested 167 Boko Haram fighters, 67 women and 173 children associated with Boko Haram who were hiding on the islands of Lake Chad. Many Boko Haram members were killed. Another 57 insurgents were arrested in a separate operation in another area.

# Reunion

**April 27:** A man suspected of links to radical Islam and of glorifying terrorism shot two police officers from a special national police intervention force. The victims were hospitalized with light injuries. Police detained the suspect and his mother, and seized weapons and material for making explosives in their apartment in Saint Benoit de la Reunion.

# Rwanda

**June 20:** Military spokesman Colonel Rene Ngendahimana said that during the night, gunmen killed a 52-year-old woman and injured eight others in the southwestern district of Rusizi near the Burundi border.

# Senegal

**April 1:** *AP* reported on April 12 that Senegalese police had arrested on April 1 a suspected recruiter for Boko Haram in a Dakar suburb. He had been in Mauritania for some months. Senegal police also announced the arrest of two Moroccans at the international airport who had been linked to ISIS. The two men came from a Syrian refugee camp in Turkey.

# Somalia

**January 2:** A suicide car bomb hit a security checkpoint near Mogadishu's international airport, killing at least three people a few hundred yards from the main base of the African Union peacekeeping mission, United Nations offices and the Peace Hotel. An initial bomb destroyed the checkpoint run by the Somali national security forces. A second bomb-laden vehicle got through, but AU forces "engaged" it and it exploded about 200 meters from Medina Gate, according to the AU mission. Al-Shabaab claimed credit via its *Radio Andalus*.

**January 4:** *Reuters* reported that in the morning, al-Shabaab set off a car bomb parked in a garage outside facilities belonging to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Mogadishu, wounding four UN guards. 17010401

**January 7:** A bomb hit a restaurant frequented by soldiers in Mogadishu's Hodan district, killing three people and injuring at least 16. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**January 10:** Al-Shabaab's *Radio Andalus* announced that it had executed Abdirizak Sheikh Ali, 15, and Isaq Abshirow, 20, in a public square in Buale, a town in Middle Jubba region, for engaging in sexual conduct. They were arrested by al-Shabaab's Islamic police and convicted by a sharia court. The group also killed Said Mohamed Ali, whom AS accused of spying for the Ethiopian army.

**January 24:** *Voice of America* reported that seven policemen were killed in a bomb attack by al-Shabaab at a base used by units of the Somali police force in Afgoye.

Hours earlier, al-Shabaab had attacked Afgoye, killing Habibo Ali, a farmer and trader of agricultural products, on her farm and injuring four other people.

**January 25:** *Reuters* and the *Voice of America* reported that at 9 a.m., al-Shabaab rammed a truck bomb into the gate of the four-storey Dayah Hotel in Mogadishu and stormed inside to shoot at guests, killing 28 people and wounding 52. Officials said the dead included twelve civilians, two intelligence agents, a policeman, the truck bomber and the four gunmen. A second car bomb went off 40 minutes later outside, injuring seven journalists and others. An al-Shabaab *Radio Andalus* announcer said, "Well-armed mujahideen [fighters] attacked the hotel, and now they are fighting inside the hotel."

**January 26:** Al-Shabaab said that it killed three Somalis it claimed collaborated with the CIA and Kenyan and Somali governments to carry out airstrikes against al-Shabaab officials. The trio was murdered in a public square in Yaqbarawe.

**January 27:** Al-Shabaab spokesman Sheikh Abdiaziz Abu-Musab said it killed 51 Kenyan soldiers and seized military vehicles in an early morning attack on a military base in Kulbiyow town in Lower Jubba region in Somalia. Kenyan military spokesman P.M. Njuguna replied that "scores" of terrorists were killed instead by an al-Shabaab car bomb when Kenyan and African Union soldiers repelled the assault. 17012701

**January 28:** IS-linked gunmen kidnapped nine people from a truck carrying nearly two dozen passengers 15 miles from Qandala. The hostages included off-duty soldiers. On February 1, residents in Qandala, Puntland, found three decapitated bodies that showed signs of torture.

**February 5:** Al-Shabaab's *Radio Andalus* announced that the group had executed four men accused of spying for the CIA and the Kenyan and Somali governments in a public square in Jamame, in Lower Jubba region. The group said a court convicted Siyad Ali Abdi, 26, Ahmed Ibrahim, 28, Yusuf Makaran, 58, and Abdullahi Omar, 26, of assisting drone attacks in Somalia which killed rebel leaders.

**February 7:** Two mortar rounds hit near Mogadishu's international airport during the night, close to the heavily guarded venue where Somalia's presidential election was scheduled to be held the next day. Al-Shabaab was suspected. No deaths were reported.

Al-Shabaab conducted two attacks on an African Union military base in Arbacow outside Mogadishu. No AU casualties were reported.

**February 8:** Gunmen attacked the International Village Hotel in Bossaso, Puntland. In the ensuing gun battle, four guards and two terrorists were killed.

**February 11:** The *Voice of America* reported that during the night, al-Shabaab attacked a government checkpoint near El-Wak in Gedo region, killing two soldiers and kidnapping a wounded soldier.

**February 12:** The *Voice of America* reported that al-Shabaab overran small military camps at Tihsile and Warmahan, west of Mogadishu, around dawn, killing two soldiers in Tihsile. Al-Shabaab said it seized ammunition and two military vehicles.

A roadside bomb hit a reinforcement convoy from Ballidogle military base near Wanlaweyn, 90 kilometers west of Mogadishu, killing four people, including the deputy commander of the 6th Division and a second military officer, and injuring eight other soldiers.

**February 13:** The *Voice of America* reported that a military court in Bosasso sentenced seven suspected al-Shabaab terrorists to death. Abdifatah Haji Aden, Chairman of Puntland's military court, said they were part of an assassination against Puntland officials, including the third deputy commander of police forces, Jama Sahardiid, the director of Puntland's presidential palace, Aden Huruse, and the prosecutor of the Puntland military court, Abdkarim Hassan Firdiye.

The *Voice of America* reported that al-Shabaab was suspected when gunmen attacked a military post in Qalimow village, killing two soldiers and injuring three. One jihadi died.

**February 16:** Al-Shabaab fired three mortars that landed in a residential area outside the presidential palace during a handover ceremony for President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, also known as Farmajo, killing two civilians, including a child. Mohamed, who holds U.S. citizenship, was elected on February 8.

**February 19:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when a car bomb parked near a restaurant went off amidst shops and food stands at a busy market in western Mogadishu's Madina district, killing 34 people and injuring 50, including Mohamed Haji, a butcher who sustained shrapnel wounds. President Mohamed Abdulahi Mohamed offered a $100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those who planned the bombing.

Hours earlier, senior al-Shabaab commander Sheikh Hassan Yaqub released an audio in which he denounced Somalia's February 8 election of new president and Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, whom he deemed an apostate and "evil-minded" and vowed to continue fighting the government.

**February 27:** The *Voice of America* reported that four Somali soldiers were injured after a car they were chasing exploded at a checkpoint near Mogadishu. The car's occupants were believed involved in an attempted assassination of a civil servant. During the chase, the passengers fired on police, seriously wounding an officer.

**February 28:** The *Voice of America* reported that a bomb planted in a car killed a person on his way to work in Mogadishu in the morning. Several others were injured in the Waberi district, north of Mogadishu airport. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**March 2:** African Union and Somali forces supported by helicopter gunships attacked an al-Shabaab camp outside Afmadhow in the morning, killing 57 terrorists, injuring others, destroying vehicles and equipment, and seizing a large cache of weapons.

**March 12:** Abdiaziz Ibrahim, a Somali journalist with London-based *Universal TV*, reported that technician Abdihamid Karzai was seriously injured when a bomb hidden in his car went off in a market in Mogadishu's Hamarweyne district as he was on his way to work in the morning.

**March 13:** In the morning, a suicide car bomber set off his explosives near the Weheliye Hotel on Mogadishu's Maka Almukarramah Road often used by government officials, businessmen and guests from the diaspora, killing six people and injuring four others.

A suicide bomber detonated a minibus carrying explosives at the gate of a military camp south of Mogadishu, killing the bomber and wounding two people.

Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire blamed "bloodthirsty groups."

The *Voice of America* added that al-Shabaab claimed credit for both bombings.

**March 21:** A car bomb hit a military checkpoint near the presidential palace in Mogadishu, killing five people and injuring three, after soldiers tried to stop the car and the bomber tried to speed past. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**March 22:** Al-Shabaab claimed it killed 17 soldiers and wounded 22 in an attack in Barawe and shelled bases of the African Union mission in the city during the nighttime assault. The government said two people were killed.

**March 24:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when a car bomb exploded in the middle of a road near the presidential palace near a restaurant and hotel in Mogadishu, killing one person and wounding two.

**March 26:** The Kenyan military raided two al-Shabaab bases in the Baadhade district, killing 31 al-Shabaab terrorists.

**April 1:** Editor Ahmedwali Hussein said six gunmen kidnapped journalist Hanad Ali Guled with the *Goobjoog* radio and television station on the outskirts of Mogadishu while en route to work in the morning. Guled called his family from an unknown location and said he was being tortured by his abductors. He had received death threats a day earlier.

**April 5:** A car bomb hit a restaurant near the ministries of internal security and youth and sports in Mogadishu, killing seven people and wounding several others. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**April 6:** A roadside bomb exploded in the evening near Golweyn in Lower Shabelle region, killing 20 people, mostly women, in a minibus. Six people were injured. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**April 7:** Two mortars hit a residential area in Wadajir district near Mogadishu airport, killing three civilians. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**April 8:** The *Voice of America* reported that troops from the Kenyan Defense Forces and Somali National Army killed three al-Shabaab terrorists planning an attack in Kuday in Jubaland. No casualties

were reported among the Somali or Kenyan troops. Among the dead was al-Shabaab commander Bashe Nure Hassan, who was in charge of the group's surveillance, logistics and supplies in the area. Somali military officials believed he led major attacks on the Somali bases and those of the Kenyan troops in the region. Authorities seized three AK-47 rifles, eleven magazines, a satellite phone and 290 rounds of ammunition.

**April 8:** The semiautonomous state of Puntland executed by firing squad five al-Shabaab members who were convicted by a military court of murdering Puntland's statehouse director and the deputy police commander in December 2016. A higher court upheld their sentences. Two others were sentenced to life in prison.

**April 9:** General Mohamed Ahmed Jimale, who had been sworn into office as chief of the Somali National Army, was traveling in a convoy with senior military officials when a suicide car bomber set off his explosives on a busy street between the military academy and the ministry of defense headquarters compound in Mogadishu, killing 17 people, including five soldiers and eight civilians traveling in a passing minibus. Al-Shabaab claimed credit.

**April 10:** An al-Shabaab suicide bomber dressed in a military uniform walked into a military training camp in western Mogadishu during the morning and set off his explosives strapped to his waist, killing five soldiers, including two colonels and the camp's chief trainer, and gravely wounding other soldiers.

A remotely-detonated bomb hidden in the car of Abdikadir Osman, an officer with the education minister, killed him when it went off in Mogadishu's Hamarweyne district.

**April 16:** Security forces shot to death two armed al-Shabaab members who had fired mortars near the Mogadishu international airport. The terrorists detonated their minibus.

**April 21:** Kenyan military spokesman Colonel Joseph Owuoth said the Kenyan army killed 52 al-Shabaab fighters at a camp in the Badhadhe region of Lower Jubba in the morning and recovered several weapons.

**April 23:** An al-Shabaab roadside bomb in Galgala, Puntland, hit a military convoy, killing eight soldiers and injuring three.

**April 27:** The *Voice of America* reported that al-Shabaab gunmen killed a senior national intelligence officer who was sitting in front of his house in Mogadishu. *Reuters* reported that Abdiasis Abu Musab, al Shabaab's military operation spokesman, said, "We are behind the killing of the national security general called Mohamud Haji Ali."

**May 3:** During the evening, bodyguards for Somali auditor general Nur Farah shot at the car of Public Works and Reconstruction Minister Abbas Abdullahi, killing him. A minister riding with Abdullahi survived. The attack occurred near a checkpoint close to the presidential palace. Abdullahi was a former refugee who spent large parts of his life at a camp in Kenya. He was the youngest member of Somalia's new cabinet. *AP* reported on May 4 that three soldiers were arrested for what may have been an accidental shooting.

**May 4:** The *Washington Post*, *Fox News*, *CNN*, *AP* and *USA Today* reported that U.S. Africa Command announced that a U.S. service member was killed during an anti-al-Shabaab advise-and-assist helicopter operation near Dare Salaam village near Barii in the Lower Shabelle region. Two other special operations personnel were wounded in the effort against al-Shabaab leaders that killed six al-Shabaab fighters in a building housing the group's radio *Andalus* station.

*UPI* reported on May 6 that the Pentagon identified the Navy SEAL as Kyle Milliken, 38, a senior chief special warfare operator, of Falmouth, Maine. He was working in support of a Somali National Army–like operation with U.S. Africa Command. 17050401

**May 5:** The military killed al-Shabaab's Lower Shabelle regional leader Moalin Osman Abdi Badil and three associates in Bariire village west of Mogadishu.

**May 6:** The *Voice of America* reported on May 8 that al-Shabaab insurgents beheaded two government soldiers at Qura'a Madobe village during the morning. They captured the duo on May 6 near the town of Mahaday, 35 kilometers north of Jowhar, and the provincial capital of Middle Shabelle region. Lieutenant Colonel Omar Ali Adow, head of the Somali National Army's 30th contingent, said, "The militants intercepted a civilian passenger vehicle in which the two government soldiers were traveling. They [the soldiers] were off duty, un-uniformed and unarmed. They [the militants] forced them to get out of the car, took them to a nearby village and beheaded them." The soldiers had left a government military camp in Biya Ade village en route to Jowhar for family emergencies. He identified the victims as Mowlid Hussein and Ahmed Ya'qub.

**May 8:** *UPI* reported that an al-Shabaab car bomb went off outside the Italian Café restaurant/coffee shop near Somalia's immigration department and adjacent to the Sunrise Hotel in Mogadishu at 6 p.m., killing six people, including General Abdi Bashir Aden, and injuring 20. Aden and security officials were traveling on a military vehicle.

A roadside bomb went off in Kabtanlas near Qoryoley in the Lower Shabelle region, killing four soldiers.

**May 17:** A car bomb exploded in Wadajir district west of Mogadishu, killing three bomb disposal experts trying to dismantle it.

**May 23:** A suicide bomber attacked a military checkpoint in Bossaso in the semiautonomous state of Puntland, killing four people, including two soldiers. ISIS claimed credit the next day, the first time it took credit for an attack in Somalia.

**May 24:** Al-Shabaab set off a car bomb outside a restaurant near Mogadishu's port, killing eight people, including a mother and child who were at the restaurant, and injuring 15.

**June 6:** The *Voice of America* reported that a bomb went off in a police station in Kismayu, killing one policeman and injuring several others. Al-Shabaab military operations spokesman Abdiasis Abu Musab claimed credit, saying it killed four and wounded 27.

**June 8:** Al-Shabaab attacked a military base in Puntland, killing 70 people and wounding dozens more. A nurse at the hospital in Armo said 40 injured soldiers were taken there. Residents said civilians, including women, were beheaded. The terrorists first set off a bomb at the remote Af-Urur camp, then fired on troops from three directions. Colonel Hashi Ahmed said at least 100 fighters were involved. Al-Shabaab's *Shahada News Agency* said it seized a large amount of weapons and ammunition and more than a dozen military vehicles.

**June 11:** *Military Times* reported that at 9 a.m., a U.S. military aircraft struck a terrorist command and logistics center in Sakow, killing eight al-Shabaab members who had attacked U.S. allies in the region.

**June 14:** An al-Shabaab suicide car bomber hit the gate of a popular Pizza House restaurant in Mogadishu during the night, killing nine people, most of them young men who were entering the restaurant, and wounding several others. Gunmen dressed in military uniforms fought their way inside the restaurant and took dozens of hostages. Al-Shabaab incorrectly said it had attacked the neighboring Posh Treats restaurant, which is frequented by the city's elite and was damaged in the blast. Security forces rescued Asian, Ethiopian, Kenyan and other workers at Posh Treats. At least 31 people were killed and 40 wounded in the siege, which ended the next morning when police killed all five terrorist snipers. Police found the body of a Syrian male chef and five girls. Aden Karie was wounded in the leg. 17061402

**June 20:** An al-Shabaab suicide car bomber in a milk delivery van hit the Wadajir district headquarters in Mogadishu, killing 15 people, mostly civilians, and wounded 18, including seven women.

**June 22:** An al-Shabaab suicide car bomber tried to drive into the Waberi district police station on the busy Maka Almukarramah road in Mogadishu, killing seven people and wounding a dozen when the car exploded against a wall.

**July 13:** A senior Somali intelligence official said that Somali National Army commandos accompanied by U.S. forces in two helicopters raided two locations, including a detention center run by al-Shabaab in Kunya-Barrow village in Lower Shabelle region in a rebel-held village and killed several al-Shabaab fighters in the morning. There were no U.S. casualties.

**July 23:** An al-Shabaab video called U.S. President Donald Trump a "brainless billionaire" in its first public criticism since his election. The group called him "arguably the most stupid president a country could ever have" who is "making the United States the greatest joke on earth and is now propelling it further to its eventual defeat and destruction." The group said it would attack Kenya for sending its troops to Somalia to take part in a multinational African Union force against al-Shabaab. "Your military's invasion of Somalia will continue to destabilize your country. When we do strike, your government will not be able to protect you."

U.S. Africa Command spokeswoman Jennifer Dyrcz said on July 26 that a mission led by Somalia's military with "limited tactical advisory support" from U.S. forces detained Abdirizak Tahlil, a suspected associate of al-Shabaab who was accused of "facilitating the use of improvised explosive devices in Somalia." He was held by the Somali government. Tahlil reportedly was granted status as a lawful U.S. permanent resident and lived in the United States between 2006 and 2009.

**July 29:** U.S. Africa Command announced on July 31 that a July 29 drone strike on a car had killed an al-Shabaab member near Tortoroow in Lower Shabelle region. Somali intelligence said he was Ali Mohamed Hussein, al-Shabaab shadow governor for Mogadishu.

**July 30:** An al-Shabaab suicide bomber was suspected when a car bomb went off near the Waberi police station along the busy Maka Almukarramah Road in Mogadishu, killing five people and wounding 13, most of them civilians.

Al-Shabaab ambushed African Union peacekeepers on joint patrol with Somali forces in the Lower Shabelle region, killing twelve Ugandan soldiers and injuring seven others. Al-Shabaab claimed it killed 39 soldiers. 17073001

**August 4:** A car bomb went off during the evening on Maka Almukarramah road in Mogadishu, killing two pedestrians, injuring five, and destroying a Tuk-Tuk taxi.

The U.S. military confirmed that Ali Mohamed Hussein, alias Ali Jabal, al-Shabaab's shadow governor for Mogadishu, was killed in an airstrike the previous weekend.

The U.S. Department of State issued an updated travel warning for Somalia, noting that al-Shabaab and ISIS "operate with relative impunity throughout large parts of the country, including Mogadishu."

**August 10:** The U.S. military said it had conducted two airstrikes against al-Shabaab near the Banadiir region; Somalia's president said the joint operation killed a senior leader of a network responsible for planning and carrying out several bombings and assassinations in Mogadishu.

**August 13:** *ABC News* reported that Mukhtar Robow, defecting deputy chief of al-Shabaab, surrendered to the government in Hudur in southwestern Somalia. The United States in June 2017 cancelled a $5 million reward offered for his capture. Robow, believed to be in his 50s, had traveled to Afghanistan and trained alongside al-Qaeda around 2000 after studies in Sudan. He had served as an al-Shabaab spokesman, military commander and spiritual leader who planned and conducted attacks on Somali government troops and African Union peacekeeping forces.

**August 16–17:** U.S. Africa Command announced that three airstrikes on August 16 and 17 killed seven al-Shabaab in Jilib.

**August 30:** On September 1, Ethiopian foreign ministry spokesman Meles Alem announced that Abdikarin Sheikh Muse, a senior figure with the rebel Ogaden National Liberation Front, had willingly surrendered and that Somalia "played a facilitation role." Earlier, the group accused Somali security forces of kidnapping and forcibly extraditing him. Alem said Muse has Ethiopian citizenship. On August 30, ONLF claimed Abdikarin was arrested in the Somalia town of Galkayo, where he went to bring his young niece to the capital, Mogadishu, for medical treatment.

**September 1:** Al-Shabaab was suspected when two bombs exploded simultaneously during Eid holiday celebrations in Af-Urur in Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland region as soldiers gathered to buy khat, killing three soldiers and injuring ten other people.

**September 8:** A suicide bomber posing as a customer walked up to a group of diners in a restaurant in Baidoa and set off his explosive vest, killing five civilians, including two Somali humanitarian aid workers, and wounding three, according to the *Voice of America*. No one claimed credit.

**September 10:** A suicide bomber was unable to enter the regional administration's headquarters in Beledweyne, capital of Hiran Province, then set off his explosive belt at 12:10 p.m. in a teashop outside the offices, killing four people and injuring 13, including three journalists. The *Voice of America* reported that al-Shabaab claimed credit.

**September 11:** An al-Shabaab suicide car bomber hit government troops' frontline defenses and briefly took over Beled-Hawo near the border with Kenya, killing four Somali soldiers at dawn. Other soldiers retreated into Kenya, then returned to conduct a gun battle with the terrorists.

A car bomb parked near a hotel on Maka Almukarramah Street in Mogadishu killed one civilian and wounded three others.

**September 17:** The *Voice of America* reported that al-Shabaab gunmen firing from a vehicle killed senior Somali intelligence officer Mohamud Moallim Hassan Qoley and his bodyguard in Mogadishu's Dharkaynlay district.

**September 24:** The *Voice of America* reported that gunmen armed with pistols fired from behind and killed General Abdullahi Mohamed Sheikh Qururuh and a bodyguard as the two men were walking home from a mosque in Mogadishu during the evening. Qururuh was a senior army officer at Somalia's command and control headquarters in Mogadishu who earlier was the army's deputy commander of logistics. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

In an al-Shabaab ambush in Galgala Highlands in the Puntland region, two government soldiers and a civilian woman were killed and five soldiers were wounded. Al-Shabaab said it attacked a military vehicle carrying soldiers to the Puntland base in Galgala Highlands.

**September 28:** A car bomb exploded during the evening outside a restaurant in Mogadishu's Hamarweyne district, killing five people, mostly civilians. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**September 29:** A suicide bomber hit a military base in Barire in Lower Shabelle region, followed by 60 terrorists who entered the base. Al-Shabaab claimed it killed 23 soldiers and seized seven pickup trucks. A Somali military official said ten people were killed.

**October 14:** Two truck bombs killed 512 people and injured 312 (initially reported as 400) in front of the Safari Hotel on a crowded street near key government ministries, including foreign affairs, in Mogadishu's Hodan district. Another 62 were missing. The government blamed al-Shabaab for the bomb, which weighed between 1,300 and 1,700 pounds. Among the dead were

- the husband of Zainab Sharif, a mother of four
- Maryan Abdullahi, 22, who was scheduled to graduate from medical school the next day
- family members of Masoud Mohamed
- three brothers working at a nearby shopping center
- a couple who were returning from a hospital after having their first child
- 15 primary school children
- Ahmed AbdiKarin Eyow, 50, who lived in Minnesota and died in his hotel room
- Two Americans, according to *NBC News*, quoting the U.S. Department of State
- Five volunteers of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

- Two of Hawo Ahmed's sons, both shopkeepers. In 2016, her husband was killed in an attack.
- Mohamoud Elmi, director general at the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs
- The father and aunt of Zakariye Abdirisaq
- The brother of Hodan Ali
- Abdiqadir Ali, 50, a taxi driver who was on his way to a hotel to pick up a client
- The son of Abdulkadir Mohamud
- A married couple
- The sister of Afrah Ibrahim, 30

Security forces had been trailing the truck after it raised suspicions. The overloaded, dusty truck covered with a tarp approached a checkpoint in the morning. Soldiers ordered the driver to park and exit the truck. He did so, phoning someone in Mogadishu. He gave the phone to the soldiers, who talked to a well-known man who vouched for the truck and persuaded soldiers to allow it into Mogadishu. The driver sped through another checkpoint. Soldiers fired on the truck, flattening a tire. The driver continued on, setting off the 1,300–1,700 pounds of explosives. Authorities believed the truck was originally targeted against the airport.

Qatar's Embassy was severely damaged and a member of the embassy staff sustained minor injuries.

Two suspects were arrested on October 18. A Somali intelligence official investigating the attack said that the well-known man was in jail. Police Captain Mohamed Hussein announced the arrest of a would-be bomber in a Toyota Noah minivan who took another route but was stopped at a checkpoint near Mogadishu's airport before setting off his explosives. 17101401

**October 22:** A roadside bomb hit a minibus carrying farmers near Bal'ad, killing killed six people and injuring three others. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

**October 28:** In the afternoon, an al-Shabaab suicide truck bomber set off his explosives outside Nasa-Hablod Hotel in Mogadishu, killing 23 people and wounding more than 30. The driver had pretended that his truck had broken down outside the gate, and looked like he was repairing the truck. Five other attackers in military uniforms ran inside the building, setting off an explosive vest and another bomb. Three attackers were killed in the initial standoff. The others threw grenades and cut off the hotel's electricity before nightfall. Police rescued 30 hostages, including Minister of Electricity and Water Salim Aliyow Ibrow, who were trapped in the hotel. The dead included a mother and three children, one a baby, all shot in the head, a senior Somali police colonel, a former lawmaker and a former government minister. The wounded included Mohamed Dek Haji, who was hit on the shoulder and skull by flying glass. *CNN* reported that the Charge d'affaires of Qatar suffered minor injuries; the Qatari Embassy was also damaged in the explosions. The next morning, security forces captured the two remaining terrorists. The government fired its police and intelligence chiefs. 17102801

**November 2:** Thousands of Ethiopian troops entered Somalia to join a large-scale offensive against al-Shabaab.

**November 3:** U.S. Africa Command conducted its first two airstrikes, the first around midnight and the second later in the morning, against Islamic State in Somalia (ISS) fighters, killing "several terrorists." Six missiles struck in Buqa, a remote mountainous village north of Qandala in Puntland.

**November 4:** The United States ordered all non-essential official employees to leave Mogadishu, because of "specific threat information" against them regarding Mogadishu International Airport.

**December 8:** *CBS News* reported that al-Shabaab terrorists were building laptop computer bombs that can be smuggled onto planes.

**December 11:** The *Voice of America* reported that a bomb fitted to the car of *Kalsan TV* news anchor Mohamed Ibrahim Gabow exploded during the night, killing him. Gabow was driving his car in Mogadishu's Wadajir district.

**December 14:** An al-Shabaab suicide bomber disguised as a police officer with explosives strapped around his waist and torso killed 18 people and wounded 20 officers, some seriously, at the General Kahiye Police Academy in Mogadishu as they were rehearsing for Somalia's Police Day celebrations scheduled for December 20.

**December 15:** The *Long War Journal* cited an AFRICOM press release on December 18 that U.S. forces conducted a strike against al-Shabaab on December 15, 30 miles northwest of Kismayo, killing eight al-Shabaab fighters and destroying a vehicle.

**December 27:** U.S. Africa Command announced that an evening airstrike, the 35th of the year, killed four members of al-Shabaab and destroyed a vehicle carrying explosives 15 miles west of Mogadishu.

# South Sudan

**March 11:** Rebels kidnapped two Indian engineers they accused of working with the government. Opposition spokesman William Gatjiath Deng said the two hostages would be held until a decision was made by opposition leader Riek Machar, who is in exile in South Africa. Another opposition spokesman, Mabior Garang, said ransom or other demands were unlikely because they "would be inconsistent with our objectives." 17031101

**March 13:** Gunmen kidnapped South Sudanese staffers with the U.S.-based aid group Samaritan's Purse. The hostages were freed the next day. No ran-

som was demanded. Rebels said that the workers had been "recovered" during fighting with government forces in the Mayendit area of Unity State. 17031301

**March 16:** Gunmen ambushed an International Organization for Migration humanitarian aid convoy returning from a field mission in Yirol East County, killing two and wounding three.

**March 19:** *Dawn* reported that Pakistani petroleum engineer Ayaz Hussain Jamali was kidnapped by rebels who ambushed his vehicle in Juba. He worked for DAR Petroleum Operating Company, and lived in Sindh Province's Badin district. *Scroll.in* reported that two Indian engineers of the same oil company were kidnapped. His brother, Babar Jamali, who also works in the same oil company, said Ayaz was kidnapped over a week earlier. *The Hindustan Times* reported that the South Sudan government refused to pay a ransom of $1 million. *Dawn* reported on April 2 that Ayaz was freed. 17031901

**March 26:** Gunmen killed six aid workers of undisclosed nationality on the road from Juba to Pibor. 17032601

**September 8:** The International Committee of the Red Cross said driver Lukudu Kennedy Laki Emmanuel was shot to death by unknown gunmen after delivering aid in Western Equatoria.

## Tanzania

**April 13:** In a nighttime ambush, unknown gunmen killed eight police officers who were returning from patrol in Jaribu outside Dar es Salaam. The gunmen shot at the driver of the patrol vehicle before killing seven other officers and seizing their weapons.

**August 16:** During the night, South African citizen Wayne Lotter, co-founder of the U.S.-based PAMS Foundation conservation group, was shot and killed in the Masa-ki district of Dar es Salaam. Lotter helped to train thousands of game scouts throughout Tanzania and developed an "intelligence-based approach" to anti-poaching. He was survived by his wife and two daughters. 17081603

**September 7:** Gunmen firing from a vehicle seriously wounded in the stomach, leg and arm parliamentarian Tundu Lissu of the Chadema party, the country's most outspoken opposition figure, as he was being driven to his home in Dodoma. Lissu, who also led Tanzania's lawyers' association, recently faced criminal charges for calling President John Magufuli a dictator regarding alleged attacks on the opposition and the media.

**November 8:** A bomb exploded inside the compound of the Kihinga primary school in Kagera region, killing five children and injuring 24. A child had picked up the device thinking it was scrap metal.

## Uganda

**March 17:** Gunmen killed Andrew Felix Kaweesi, the spokesman for Uganda's police, outside his Kampala home as he was being driven to work in the morning. Presidential spokesman Don Wanyama said Kaweesi's driver and a bodyguard also died.

**April 19:** The Ugandan military announced that it had ended its search for Joseph Kony, head of the Lord's Resistance Army, although he remained at large and was wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

**August 5:** Unknown abductors kidnapped Rwandan refugee Rene Rutagungira, who had been out drinking with three Rwandan friends in Kampala, according to his wife, Jasinta Dusangeyezu. She added that days earlier, a man failed to recruit him into a dissident group opposed to the government of President Paul Kagame. Rutagungira was a sergeant in Rwanda's military before retiring in 1998. 17080502

**October 2:** During the night, terrorists threw explosive devices at the residences of two opposition lawmakers, Allan Ssewanyana and pop star Robert Kyagulanyi. No one was injured. The duo opposes attempts to end a constitutional age limit that bars anyone over 75 from becoming president. President Yoweri Museveni, 73 and in power since 1986, is presently ineligible to seek re-election in 2021. Ssewanyana blamed Uganda's security forces.

**December 29:** The government-controlled *New Vision* newspaper reported that 45 Rwandans were charged with terrorism and establishing a terror organization.

# Asia

## Armenia

**April 22:** Regional prosecutor Karen Gabrielian said a Russian soldier serving at a base in Armenia was knifed to death at a store near the military base in Gyumri. A suspect was arrested. *RIA Novosti* quoted the military's southern command as saying that the attack possibly was sparked by a domestic dispute.

## Bangladesh

**March 2:** During the night, police in Dhaka arrested Maulana Abul Kashem, the spiritual leader of the banned Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh that is responsible for numerous attacks. He was a teacher at a madrassa in northern Bangladesh and was acting as chief of a JMB faction. Police said Kashem played a key role in the July 1, 2016, attack in which 17 foreigners were killed when five terrorists attacked a restaurant in Dhaka's diplomatic zone. Kashem was allegedly connected with Tamim Chowdhury, a Bangladeshi-born Canadian who was the main planner of the group; he was killed in a raid in August 2016.

**March 13:** Gunmen shot and hacked to death Sufi spiritual leader Farhad Hossain Chowdhury and his adopted daughter Rupali Begum at a shrine Chowdhury ran in Dinajpur district. Chowdhury had been a local leader of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party in the past but left politics in recent years.

**March 16:** Four Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh members were killed in a police raid in Chittagong district.

**March 17:** A terrorist set off his explosives when challenged by guards at the future headquarters of a Bangladesh Rapid Action Battalion security agency in the Ashkona area, opposite Dhaka's international airport, killing himself. IS claimed credit.

**March 18:** The elite Rapid Action Battalion anti-crime force shot and killed a man carrying explosives in a bag who tried to drive his motorbike past a checkpoint in Khilgaon, Dhaka. Two officials were injured.

**March 19:** A three-member panel of Supreme Court judges dismissed an appeal seeking to quash a December death sentence for Mufti Hannan, the former head of the banned Harkatul Jihad, and two accomplices over a 2004 grenade attack on Bangladesh-born British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury. The trio was found guilty in 2008 of orchestrating the attack while Choudhury was visiting a popular 700-year-old Islamic shrine in the northeastern city of Sylhet. Choudhury was unharmed, but three police officers died and 70 people were wounded. In 2008, a trial court sentenced two other associates of Hannan to life in prison for the attack. Hannan was also sentenced to death for a December 31, 2001, attack that killed ten people. He remained on trial for a 2004 grenade attack that killed 24 people and targeted current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was the opposition leader at the time.

**March 24:** A male suicide bomber hit a police post on a busy road near Dhaka's airport, killing himself but causing no other injuries. He was between 25 and 30 years old. *Reuters* added that the Islamic State claimed credit, saying Abu Mohammed al-Bengali killed many officers and wounded others when he detonated his explosive jacket in the midst of police officers it dismissed as "apostates."

**March 25:** Bombs went off on a road near an Islamic religious school as troops raided a suspected militant hideout in Sylhet, killing two civilians and a policeman and injuring 25 people. Police said that 78 civilians were rescued from the building as troops broke through a boundary wall. A raid the next day killed another two gunmen. The army killed the last four gunmen on March 27, when the found two bodies in addition to six people, including two policemen, who were killed in explosions near the building earlier.

**April 2:** The country's High Court confirmed the death penalty for two people tied to a banned Ansarullah Bangla Team for the 2013 hacking to death of Ahmed Rajib Haider, an atheist blogger critical of radical Islam. The court upheld jail sentences for six

others after appeals were filed challenging the 2015 verdicts of a trial court. One of the defendants was ABT leader Mufti Jasimuddin Rahmani; the others were university students inspired by his sermons. The two North South University students sentenced to death included Faisal bin Nayeem, who the court said hacked Haider with meat cleavers in front of his house in Dhaka. Another was tried in absentia and sentenced to death. He was a member of the Jamaat-e-Islami's student wing, Islami Chhatra Shibir, which denied involvement. The others received prison sentences ranging from three years to life. Rahmani received five years.

**June 1–2:** In an overnight raid, police found a cache of arms and ammunition in a canal at Rupganj, outside Dhaka, and were questioning three people. The trove included 62 Chinese-made machine guns, two rocket launchers, 40 magazines and grenades. Police acted on information obtained from a man arrested earlier.

**June 11:** In a nighttime raid in Dhaka, counter-terrorism police arrested six members of the banned Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh and accused them of planning to kill an outspoken Islamic scholar for his stand against religious extremism.

**August 15:** Dhaka Police Chief A.K.M. Shahidul Hoque said suspected jihadi Saiful Islam, a college student, died in an explosion inside the Hotel Olio International during a morning raid on an alleged hideout.

# China

**March 8:** The *South China Morning Post* reported that during a battle in the Kokang region of Myanmar between Myanmar Nationalities Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) rebels and government troops, a shell landed 100 meters across the border, near the Anran Hotel in Nanshan, a Chinese border town in Zhenkang County in Yunnan Province, injuring one person. 17030801

**June 15:** A bomb went off at 4:50 p.m., at the front gate of the Chuangxin Kindergarten in Fengxian in eastern China as relatives were picking up their children at the end of the school day, killing eight people and injuring 65, eight critically. No students or teachers were injured. The official newspaper *Global Times*' website said that the incident was caused by the explosion of a gas cylinder at a roadside food stall. The Xuzhou government said two people died at the scene and six others died at a hospital. Four others were seriously injured. Authorities announced that Xu, 22, the man who made the bomb, died in the explosion. Investigators found bomb-making materials at his nearby residence in Xuzhou in Jiangsu Province. Its walls were decorated with the Chinese characters for death, disaster and similar dark themes. He had left school because of a nervous system disorder, whose symptoms can include depression, anxiety, dizziness, vision problems and problems with basic bodily functions. He had rented a place in the neighborhood, working as a casual laborer.

# India

**January 9:** Before dawn, gunmen fired at a camp of the General Engineering Reserve Force in the frontier Battal area killing three civilian laborers working with an army road construction crew near the border with Pakistan in Indian-controlled Kashmir. One laborer was wounded.

**January 24:** Police and soldiers conducted two clashes with gunmen in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing three gunmen. Authorities battled two gunmen in a village near Ganderball, recovering two rifles. In Sunderbani sector near the Line of Control, soldiers killed another person. The rest of the gunmen fled into the Pakistani-controlled part of Kashmir.

**February 1:** Maoist rebels were suspected when a police vehicle hit a land mine, killing eight policemen and injuring five policemen in Koraput region, nearly 550 kilometers (345 miles) south of Bhubaneshwar, the capital of Orissa state. The victims were young recruits being trained as police drivers.

**February 11–12:** An overnight gun battle between suspected rebels and soldiers ended with the deaths of four gunmen, two Indian army soldiers and the young son of the owner of a house in Frisal village Indian-controlled Kashmir. Three soldiers were injured.

**February 14:** In a gun battle in Hajin village in India-controlled Kashmir, three Indian soldiers and a rebel died. Five other soldiers, including an army officer, were wounded.

**February 23:** Rebels ambushed soldiers in Moul village in the Shopian area of Kashmir, killing Taja Begum, 60, a woman sleeping in her home, and three Indian soldiers. The rebels threw grenades and fired at soldiers returning from a search operation. Three soldiers, including two officers, were injured.

**February 26:** The *Times of India* reported that Gujarat's Anti-Terrorism Squad arrested brothers Waseem and Naeem Ramodiya in Rajkot and Bhavnagar, respectively, who were suspected ISIS terrorists allegedly planning to bomb religious sites, including Chotila Temple, in Gujarat in the next two days. The duo was in touch with ISIS operatives overseas through social media. Police recovered bomb-making material, including gun powder, locally made bombs with a battery, masks, and computers from the two.

Earlier in February, the NIA arrested a Kerala resident suspected of ISIS links.

**March 4–5:** The *Voice of America* reported that two rebels and a counterinsurgency policeman were killed in an overnight gun battle when government forces surrounded a civilian home in the Tral area. The gunmen threw grenades and fired automatic rifles. Three other security officials, including an army officer, were wounded.

**March 5:** The *Times of India* reported that a bomb exploded at Sopore's Pazalpora Hardshiva village in north Kashmir, near the Baramulla district's army 22 RR camp, injuring three children: Sahil Rashid Lone, Aakash Reyaz and Shakir Hussain. One was critically injured.

**March 7–8:** In an eleven-hour overnight gun battle, police killed Saifullah, a man suspected of masterminding the March 7 bombing of a passenger train that injured eight people near Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh State. An anti-terrorist police squad found him at the home of a Muslim cleric in Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh State. He refused to surrender, and fired at police. On March 7, police had arrested and questioned four suspects, leading them to Saifullah's hideout. The four said Saifullah was an IS sympathizer. Police seized an Islamic State flag, six mobile phones and detailed sketches of railway stations in New Delhi, Lucknow, Agra and Bangalore.

**March 11:** The *Press Trust of India* reported that Maoist gunmen ambushed more than 100 Indian Central Reserve Police Force paramilitary soldiers, killing eleven and injuring three in the Sukma forest area in Chattisgarh State.

**April 9:** The Indian army killed four suspected rebels in a nighttime battle in Kashmir after the group crossed the Pakistani border.

**April 20:** Authorities detained ten suspected Islamic State activists were detained in a six-state sweep.

**April 22:** *AP* reported that beginning in May 2016, five families, some with small children, snuck out of Kerala, India and settled in Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province, joining the local IS affiliate. The families included 19 adults and three children. Two were killed by drones, one on April 11, 2017. Family members said 13 Indian nationals were among the 94 people who died in the April 13 MOAB (Mother of All Bombs) bombing of an IS cave complex.

Among those who left India were brothers Ijas Abdul Rahman, 34, a doctor, and Shiyas Abdul Rahman, 26, along with their pregnant wives.

**April 24:** Maoist rebels killed 25 paramilitary soldiers who were guarding workers building roads in a forested area of Sukma district of Chhattisgarh State.

**May 6:** During the night, rebels attacked a police squad at a road accident site on a key highway in Kaimuh, Indian Kashmir. In the ensuing gun battle, three civilian road construction officials of a private company, a policeman, and a gunman died and a civilian and a police officer were injured. Two attackers escaped. The dead gunman was identified as Fayaz Ahamed; thousands attended his funeral.

**May 14:** *Dawn* and *AFP* reported that two gunmen were killed in a shoot-out with Indian security forces in a thickly forested area near Handwara, 70 kilometers from Srinagar in Indian-held Kashmir.

**May 20–21:** Indian soldiers intercepted rebels who crossed into the Nowgam sector of Indian-controlled Kashmir from the Pakistani side, starting a two-day gun battle that killed four insurgents and three Indian soldiers.

**May 26–27:** In an overnight gun battle between rebels and government forces in the southern Tral area in Indian-controlled Kashmir, rebel leader Sabzar Ahmed Bhat and a fellow gunman were killed.

**June 3:** Suspected insurgents ambushed an army convoy on a key highway in the Qazigund area in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing two soldiers and wounding four other soldiers.

**June 7:** Authorities killed three rebels in the Machil sector of Indian-controlled Kashmir.

**June 8:** Gunmen crossed from the Pakistani-controlled area of Kashmir into Indian-held portion in Nowgam sector, sparking a gun battle in which three insurgents and a soldier were killed.

**June 15:** Two police officers died in two separate shootings by suspected rebels in Srinagar and the southern Kulgam area of Kashmir.

**June 16:** Senior police officer S.P. Pani said gunmen ambushed a police vehicle in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing six policemen in the southern Achabal area.

**June 21:** Soldiers killed two Kashmiri rebels in the northern Sopore area.

**June 22:** Authorities set off explosives at a terrorist safehouse in Kakpora, killing three suspected Kashmiri rebels during a nighttime clash in which an Indian army officer was wounded.

**June 24–25:** Kashmiri rebels killed a paramilitary officer and wounded another soldier in an attack on a paramilitary patrol vehicle before taking shelter in a school outside Srinagar. Two Indian army commandos were wounded on June 25 in the ongoing gun battle.

**June 27:** During Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington, D.C., the U.S. Department of State designated Kashmir Hizbul Mujahideen leader Mohammed Yusuf Shah, alias Syed Salahuddin, 71, a global terrorist. Hours earlier Salahuddin appeared in a video calling for strikes in the Himalayan territory in remembrance of rebel leader Burhan Wani whose killing by Indian forces in July 2016 trig-

gered months of deadly protests. The U.S. Department of State said Salahuddin had "vowed to block any peaceful resolution to the Kashmir conflict, threatened to train more Kashmiri suicide bombers, and vowed to turn the Kashmir Valley into a graveyard for Indian forces."

**July 10:** Gunmen attacked a police armored vehicle and then a passenger bus bringing 50 Hindu pilgrims back from a cave shrine in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing six, including five women, and wounding 13 others. A police officer blamed jihadis for the attack near Anantnag.

**July 27:** The Global Islamic Media Front announced that Kashmiri militant Zakir Musa will head the al-Qaeda-linked Ansar Ghawzat-ul-Hind. It was the first time that al-Qaeda had claimed to be active in Kashmir. The group aimed to "repel the aggression of tyrant Indian invaders, and through jihad, and with the aid of Allah … we will liberate our homeland Kashmir." Musa recently left Kashmir's largest indigenous rebel group, Hizbul Mujahideen. Musa was a close aide of Burhan Wani, a Kashmiri rebel leader who died in 2016.

**August 12–13:** During a gun battle in Kashmir, three Hizbul Mujahideen rebels and two Indian soldiers were killed and three soldiers were wounded. Indian troops had raided southern Awneera village on a tip that at least seven rebels were hiding there. The terrorists threw hand grenades and fired automatic rifles from two civilian homes and an apple orchard. Firing resumed the next morning.

Terrorists threw a petrol bomb at a police party in Srinagar, injuring a civilian passer-by who died the next day.

**August 13:** Kashmiri rebels fired at government forces laying a cordon in the Hajin area, injuring two police officials and a soldier in the morning.

**August 26:** Two rebel gunmen armed with guns and grenades shot at a sentry and entered a police camp in Pulwama in Kashmir, killing two paramilitary soldiers and a police officer and wounding four other personnel, including a paramilitary soldier. Two paramilitary soldiers were killed in the ensuing gun battle. No group claimed credit.

**September 21:** Rebels were suspected of throwing a grenade at a motorcade of a local government minister in Tral in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing three pedestrians, including a teenage girl, and wounding 30 others, including 20 civilians, seven paramilitary soldiers, two police and a government engineer. The minister was unhurt. No one claimed credit. Kashmir's largest rebel group, Hizbul Mujahideen, condemned the attack and blamed Indian agencies for trying to create a wedge between militants and the local population.

**October 3:** Rebels dressed in military uniforms attacked a paramilitary camp with grenades and automatic gunfire near Srinagar's airport in Kashmir in the morning, sparking a nine-hour gun battle that killed three gunmen and a border guard officer and injured three soldiers. The camp houses a battalion of India's Border Security Force. The government blamed Jaish-e-Mohammad, although no group claimed credit.

**October 9:** Soldiers killed the chief of operations of the Jaish-e-Mohammad group in the Handwara area who had masterminded several attacks, including one the previous week on a paramilitary camp near Srinagar's airport.

The Indian army said a soldier was in an attack on a patrol party in the Budgam area.

**October 10:** During an overnight gun battle in the forested village of Kellar in southern Kashmir, the army killed three rebels.

**October 11:** During a gun battle in Hajin, Kashmir, two Indian air force commandos and two rebels, including Nasrullah Mir, were killed.

Police Director-General S.P. Vaid announced the detention of two Kashmiri policemen for allegedly supplying ammunition to rebels.

**November 7:** After government forces raided homes in Aglar village in Kashmir following a tip that rebels were hiding there, a gun battle led to the deaths of three gunmen and an Indian Army soldier. Two civilians were injured in the clashes between rock-throwing protesters and troops, who fired bullets and tear gas. One of the three slain rebels was a nephew of a senior Pakistani Jaish-e-Mohammad leader, Masood Azhar.

**November 17:** Separatist fighter Mugees Ahmad Mir was killed in a nighttime shoot-out with security forces. Thousands of people in Srinagar attended his funeral the next day.

**November 18:** *Al-Jazeera* reported that six Lashkar-e-Taiba separatists, all Pakistanis, and an Indian Air Force commando died in a gun battle in Hajin village in Indian-administered Kashmir. Another Indian Air Force commando was wounded. 17111801

**November 19:** Suraj Pal Amu, a member of the ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party from the state of Haryana, offered a $1.5 million bounty to anyone who beheads actress Deepika Padukkone and filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bansali for making the Bollywood film Padmavati. The film included a dream sequence showing a relationship between a Hindu queen and a Muslim ruler.

**December 5:** The *Press Trust of India* and the *New York Times* reported that police in Rajsamand, Rajasthan State arrested Shambu Lal Raigar, a Hindu who with a pickax hacked to death and set on fire Mohammad Afrazul, 50, a Muslim laborer from West

Bengal. Raigar's nephew videotaped the murder. Raigar, a marble trader in his mid–30s, raged against "love jihad" that leads to intermarriages of Hindu women and Muslim men.

**December 14:** Police killed eight Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Maoist Naxalite rebels in a raid on their hideout in a forested area in Telangana State and seized a weapons cache, including five rifles. No police casualties were reported.

**December 25:** *AFP* reported that during the evening, government forces killed Noor Mohammad Tantray, 47, commander in the Kashmir valley of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad group. Tantray and his associates were trapped in a house in Samboora outside Srinagar, sparking a gun battle. His three-foot-tall body was found under debris. His two associates fled. He had been jailed for a dozen years in 2003, but skipped parole two years later to rejoin JeM.

**December 31:** Rebels in combat dress attacked a paramilitary camp in Lethpora village in Indian-controlled Kashmir in the morning, firing guns and grenades at the sentry. Five Indian soldiers and three suspected rebels were killed and three soldiers were wounded. The camp serves as a training center for soldiers. The English-language *Greater Kashmir* newspaper reported that Jaish-e-Mohammed claimed responsibility for the attack, saying that "such attacks will continue till the last Indian soldier leaves Kashmir." The initial assault killed a paramilitary soldier and injured two others. Three more paramilitary soldiers and two suspected rebels were killed in an ensuing gun battle. Another soldier died of cardiac arrest while being evacuated from the camp's residential buildings. Authorities killed a third terrorist, ending the battle.

# Indonesia

**January:** In mid-month, authorities detained 17 people, including eight women, as they arrived at Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport, on suspicion of contacting ISIS.

**January 24:** Bali police spokesman Hengky Widjaja said on January 26 that during the evening of January 24 police in Bali detained five Indonesians—three men and two women, all from northern Jakarta—returning from Turkey on an Emirates flight from Istanbul on suspicion they traveled abroad to join ISIS. Widjaja said Turkish soldiers arrested them on January 16 at a safe house. He said they left Indonesia on August 15, 2016, for Thailand, then flew to Istanbul. *AP* added on January 27 that Triyono Utomo, one of the men arrested, was an Australian-educated former finance ministry official who resigned from his job in the ministry's fiscal policy office in February 2016 to focus on managing an Islamic boarding school in West Java. He had been slated for appointment as a division head within the office. National Police spokesman Martinus Sitompul said Utomo had studied for his master's degree in Australia. The other arrestees were his wife and children.

**February 27:** National police chief Tito Karnavian said police shot and killed a member of Jemaah Ansharut Daulah in the West Java capital of Bandung after his bomb exploded in a vacant lot 55 yards from a municipal building and he fled into the building and torched it. The attacker wanted fellow jailed jihadis released. Only the terrorist was injured. Police said another person may have been involved; witnesses saw two men on a motorbike arrive at the lot where the bomb exploded and one of them riding away following the explosion. Police said the terrorist was armed with a gun and apparently had explosives in a backpack. When police called on him to surrender, he threw an explosive at them. *Reuters* said the bomb was assembled using a pressure cooker. The attacker had demanded that Indonesia's anti-terror police unit Densus 88 release all its detainees.

**March 23:** The nation's counterterrorism squad shot to death Nang Kosim, a suspected jihadi, and wounded another in the hand as they tried to escape a police operation in Cilagon in Banten Province near Jakarta. The duo had driven into a police vehicle while one pointed a gun at police. Two other men surrendered. The four, who were in two cars, were believed to be members of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, a network of nearly two dozen Indonesian extremist groups that formed in 2015 and pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Police spokesman Rikwanto said Kosim gave weapons training and helped hide jihadis involved in attacks including a Jakarta suicide bombing and gun attack.

The counterterrorism squad arrested four Jemaah Anshorut Daulah jihadis in several locations in Java who were trying to establish a training camp in the Halmahera archipelago in eastern Indonesia and who likely had links with Abu Sayyaf in the Philippines. They were linked to the other four ambushed earlier in the day.

Detainee Suryadi Mas'ud told police his role was to purchase rifles from militants in the Philippines and he had traveled there several times to meet Isnilon Hapilon, an Abu Sayyaf commander, who agreed to provide M16 and M14 rifles. Police said five guns had been sent from the Philippines to Indonesian militants. Two of them were used in a Jakarta suicide bombing and gun attack in January 2016 that killed eight people, including four attackers.

**April 7:** National Police spokesman Boy Rafli Amar announced the arrests of three suspected jihadis who were planning to attack a police station in East Java's Lamongan district the next week. Among the de-

tainees was Zainal Anshori, leader in East Java of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, a network of Indonesian extremists that claims allegiance to ISIS. The network was formed in 2015 and was led from prison by radical cleric Aman Abdurrahman.

**April 8:** National police spokesman Martinus Sitompul said police killed six suspected jihadis they had cornered in a village of Tuban District in an hours-long gun battle that followed a failed drive-by shooting of a traffic police officer who was patrolling a busy road in East Java. Police were investigating whether the six men were part of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah. Authorities confiscated dozens of rounds of ammunition, several firearms, knives, jihadi books and a car used by the men. The next day, police said the terrorists were planning to attack police officers to avenge the arrest of a radical leader.

**May 24:** During the night, two male suicide bombers set off explosives in a parking lot near the Kampung Melayu bus terminal in eastern Jakarta, killing three policemen and injuring six police officers and five civilians. The officers had been guarding a parade. An anti-terror squad raided two houses believed to be owned by the perpetrators in the neighboring provinces of Banten and West Java. Police said the bombers were Ichwanul Nurul Salam, 40, and Ahmad Sukri, 32, both from West Java Province. Police took their relatives for questioning and DNA tests. Initial investigations indicated that the bombs were made out of pressure cookers and were carried in backpacks. Nails, buckshot and aluminum flakes were found at the scene. The Islamic State claimed credit. Police announced Jemaah Anshorut Daulah (JAD) involvement. *AP* added on May 26 that Indonesian police arrested Jajang Iqin Shodiqin, Waris Suyitno and Abu Dafa in Bandung, West Java Province, and seized a computer, cellphones and documents about Islam from Shodiqin's house. Police said Shodiqin has an active role in raising donations to help fund a radical Islamic boarding school in Poso in Central Sulawesi. *AP* added on May 29 that police arrested three more suspects. On May 28, police detained a suspect in Cibubur, near Jakarta. He was believed to have been the last person to meet with Ahmad Sukri. Wahyudi was arrested in the morning in the Sukoharjo district of West Java Province. Hours later, police caught a man in the neighboring district of Karanganyar.

On June 22 Indonesian police announced the arrests of 41 suspected terrorists in Jakarta, neighboring provinces of West Java and Banten as well as Central and East Java, Sumatra island and West Nusatenggara. National police spokesman Major General Setyo Wasisto said nine were suspects in the bombings that also wounded six police and five civilians. Five others, including the wives of the suicide bombers, were released due to a lack of evidence. The remaining detainees included those wanted for other terrorism-related offenses. Police said the bombers and nine suspects belonged to Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, a network of Indonesian extremist groups founded in 2015 that pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

**June 7:** Judge Tarigan Mudalimbong sentenced six Islamic militants on charges of harboring and training extremists by hiding two Chinese Uighurs who were trying to join an extremist group in Poso on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, and by setting up a jihadi training camp. He said there was not enough evidence to prove allegations by Indonesian police that the six had plotted to fire a rocket at downtown Singapore from a nearby island. Gigih Rahmad Dewa, 32, the group's leader, was sentenced to four years in prison. The others received three-year sentences. The six were arrested in 2016 on Batam island, 15 miles southeast of Singapore. Police said instant messaging chats between them and Bahrun Naim, an Indonesian fighting with ISIS in Syria, indicated they wanted to fire a rocket at Singapore. Mudalimbong said the defendants had pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and set up a jihadi training camp in Batam in an attempt to expand their extremist Katibah Gonggong Rebus group. Police were tipped off by another Chinese Uighur, who had been arrested on suspicion of plotting to attack Jakarta's minority Christian governor and minority Shi'ites.

**June 17:** Police foiled a plot to attack a police station in Bima in West Nusatenggara.

**June 25:** Two suspected terrorists armed with a knife and a machete attacked a provincial police headquarters in Medan, North Sumatra Province, killing an officer who was at his post. One gunman died and another was seriously wounded by police gunfire. Police believed the attackers were members of an extremist group that had pledged allegiance to ISIS in Syria. Police arrested three members who were plotting an attack. North Sumatra police spokeswoman Rina Sari Ginting said police searched the attackers' houses and seized an ISIS black flag, a document planning the attack, a picture of ISIS caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, a laptop computer, a jihadi video and machetes.

**June 30:** A policeman fatally shot a suspected jihadi who had stabbed two policemen with a bayonet following Friday night prayers inside a mosque near the national police headquarters in Jakarta. The officers were hospitalized with ear and neck injuries. The attacker ran from the mosque yelling "kafir" ("infidel") and "Allah Akbar." Police found an identity card on the attacker.

**July 8:** West Java police arrested Agus Wiguna, 21, after a homemade pressure cooker bomb accidentally exploded at his rented house in Bandung, causing no

casualties. Police said he wanted to join ISIS-affiliated terrorists who occupied Marawi, Philippines since mid–May. Police found a document in which he pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Wiguna learned about ISIS and how to assemble a bomb from the Internet. Police said he planned to begin his attack on July 16 at a cafe, then a restaurant and a church, all in Bandung.

**August 15:** West Java police spokesman Yusri Yunus announced that police in Bandung arrested five Jemaah Anshorut Daulah members and seized chemicals that were to be used for late August attacks on several locations, including the presidential palace and the headquarters of the police's elite force and security officers. Detainees included a husband and wife who were deported three years earlier from Hong Kong on suspicion of spreading radical ideology. The duo was arrested in Jakarta's Kiaracondong neighborhood.

**August 18:** Oman Rochman, alias Aman Abdurrahman, 45, a radical Islamic cleric who ran an ISIS-affiliated network from prison, was among more than 90,000 inmates granted an early release from prison to mark Indonesia's Independence Day. He was re-arrested for alleged involvement in several terrorist attacks. The Justice Ministry said he was transferred from Nusa Kambangan prison island to a paramilitary police detention center near Jakarta for questioning about his role in attacks including a January 2016 suicide bombing in central Jakarta that killed four civilians and four attackers. Abdurrahman was serving a nine-year sentence for helping set up a jihadi training camp in Aceh in 2010. He was released on parole in 2008 from a seven-year sentence for a failed plot that involved a bomb prematurely exploding at his home. Police said he was the principal Indonesian translator for ISIS propaganda and led Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, a network of almost two dozen Indonesian extremist groups that formed in 2015. On August 22, National police spokesman Setyo Wasisto named him as the key suspect in the January 14, 2016, attack. "He is accused of ordering and encouraging the militants to carry out amaliyah," the Arabic term for suicide bombing.

**August 23:** Prosecutors told the East Jakarta District Court that Indonesian would-be suicide bomber Dian Yulia Novi, 28, her husband, Nur Solihin, and her recruiter Tutin should face prison terms for plotting an attack in Jakarta. They demanded ten years for Novi, who planned to set off a three-kilogram bomb that would have exploded as crowds of people gathered to watch a guard-changing ceremony at the presidential palace; five years for Tutin for radicalizing Novi and encouraging her to become a suicide bomber; and 15 years for Solihin. Four suspected terrorists, including Novi and Solihin, were arrested in December 2016. Novi, a former migrant worker in Singapore and Taiwan, was nine months pregnant. She said at her trial that she took orders from Bahrun Naim, an Indonesian with ISIS in Syria who is accused of orchestrating several attacks in Indonesia. Novi said on television after her arrest that she learned about jihad on social media and was influenced by articles written by Aman Abdurrahman, a radical cleric who police the previous day said was the key suspect behind a suicide bombing and gun attack that killed eight people in Jakarta in 2016. Defense attorney Kasmi said that Novi did not become aware of her pregnancy until several weeks after her incarceration. Prosecutors were seeking five years in prison for Tutin. She introduced Novi to Solihin, the alleged leader of a small extremist cell in Central Java's Solo city. He told *Indonesian TV* following his arrest that he married Novi to facilitate her desire to become a suicide bomber. Prosecutors requested eight years for a fourth suspected terrorist, Agus Supriadi. On August 25, a three-judge panel sentenced Novi to 7½ years in prison. Her attorney did not plan to appeal. Tutin was sentenced to 3½ years in prison for hiding information about the plot from authorities. Verdicts for Solihin and Agus Supriadi were expected for mid–September.

**September 18:** The *Straits Times* reported that police foiled a plot to attack President Joko Widodo and his security detail when they arrested a jihadi, I.M., 31, with five Molotov cocktails, a bayonet, an Airsoft replica of a pistol, as well as a note with an invitation for jihad near a helicopter landing pad at Penggung Airport in Cirebon, West Java Province, where President Joko, better known as Jokowi, was visiting the next day for a cultural festival. The suspect was a member of the Jemaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), a local terrorist network with ties to ISIS which was behind a series of recent attacks.

**September 20:** A three-judge panel of the East Jakarta District Court sentenced suspected ring leader Muhammad Nur Solihin, 27, to eleven years and Indonesian terrorist Agus Supriyadi, 37, to six years in prison for planning a plot to attack a presidential guard-changing ceremony in Jakarta. Solihin was linked to ISIS. Solihin raised a finger toward heaven. The duo was arrested with two others, including Dian Yulia Novi (Solihin's wife), 28, in December 2016, a day before their planned attack. In August 2017, Novi was sentenced to seven-and-one-half years in prison. A second woman, Tutin, received three-and-one-half years for encouraging Novi to become a suicide bomber. Presiding Judge Syafrudin Ainor Rafiek said Supriyadi helped transport Solihin and the bomb for the attack from Central Java to Novi's residence in Bekasi, in the Jakarta suburbs. Police said Solihin ran a small cell in Central Java's Solo city. Novi planned to charge the presidential guards dur-

ing the ceremony and set off a pressure cooker bomb. Police said the foursome was part of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, a network of almost two dozen Indonesian extremist groups that formed in 2015 and pledges allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

**October 24:** Counterterrorism police arrested nine suspected jihadis, including alleged bomb maker Bakri Baroncong, who was on the run for five years. He was believed to have made the explosives for a failed attempt to kill the governor of South Sulawesi Province in 2012. Bakri was tracked down at an Islamic boarding school in the province.

Authorities arrested five suspected militants in Pekanbaru in Sumatra and two others in Central Java Province. Hendrasti Wijanarko was captured in East Java Province. Police said he was linked to four jihadis convicted for a plot to bomb a guard-changing ceremony at the presidential palace in Jakarta. They were part of a cell in Solo in Central Java that took orders from Bahrun Naim, an Indonesian with ISIS in Syria accused of orchestrating several attacks in Indonesia.

**November 9:** Papua police chief Boy Rafli Amar announced that 25 separatist gunmen took over the villages of Kimbeli and Banti in easternmost Papua Province near a U.S.-owned Grasberg gold and copper mine, trapping about 1,300 people. Hendrik Wanmang, who described himself as a commander of the separatist National Liberation Army of West Papua, denied it was holding hostages.

**November 12:** Police fatally shot two men suspected of torching a remote police station in the West Sumatra district of Dharmasraya. Police confiscated bows and arrows, bayonets, a knife and a handwritten message with militant content. The two men attacked officers with arrows, injuring at least one.

# Malaysia

**February:** On March 7 *AP* reported that Malaysian police claimed that they had foiled a planned attack on "Arab royalties" visiting Kuala Lumpur in February. In separate February raids, police detained four Yemenis, two Malaysians and an Indonesian. Khalid Abu Bakar, the national police chief, said the Yemenis were suspected of planning at attack when Saudi Arabia's King Salman visited Malaysia.

**September 5:** The *Straits Times* reported that police arrested 19 people, including eight Abu Sayyaf members, in anti-terrorist raids in Selangor, Kuala Llumpur, Kelantan and Johor before July 4 and August 30. Eleven foreigners were arrested, including individuals from Bangladesh, the Maldives, Iraq, Palestine, the Philippines, and Indonesia. Two suspects planned to attack the 29th South East Asia Games in Bukit Jalil and Malaysian National Day celebrations on August 31 at Dataran Merdeka public square in Kuala Lumpur. Among the detainees was a Bangladeshi temporary teacher, 25, who worked at a religious school in Gombak, Selangor and was arrested on July 4. He was suspected of membership in Jamatul Mujahideen Bangladesh. He reportedly entered Malaysia on September 4, 2016. Authorities arrested an Iraqi man and another man on August 15 in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor. A senior police officer said, "The Palestinian man had planned to head to southern Philippines to the ISIS faction there, and the Iraqi man is believed to be linked to an ISIS-friendly Albanian terror cell. We also arrested two Indonesian men in Petaling Jaya on August 25 for actively recruiting militants for ISIS. They were planning to head to Syria." A 25-year-old mastermind of the Abu Sayyaf group had gone to Kuala Lumpur from Sandakan, Sabah in December 2015. "He was involved in the kidnappings of six Philippines nationals as well as clashes with the Philippines military. He is also responsible for beheading a Christian hostage in southern Philippines in 2010. He is believed to have held meeting with Malaysian militants Dr. Mahmud Ahmad, Mohd Najib Hussein and Muhammad Juraimee Awang Ramlee at Kampung Tipo-Tipo in Basilan in September 2015."

**September 14:** On September 28 *AP* reported that two Malaysian teenagers were charged with murder after being accused of intentionally setting a fire on September 14 at an Islamic boarding school that killed two teachers and 21 students aged 6 to 17, including Hartini Abdul Ghani. Because of their age, they will not face a death penalty. The magistrate set a hearing for November 28. Police had detained seven teens for allegedly using cooking gas tanks and petrol to set fire to a dormitory on the top floor of the tahfiz school, where Muslim students learn to memorize the Koran. The fire blocked the only exit to the dormitory, trapping students behind barred windows. Police said the suspects sought revenge after being teased by some students a few days earlier. The two murder suspects and four other detained boys were charged with drug abuse. One of the seven was released due to lack of evidence.

**September 21:** National police chief Mohamad Fuzi Harun said police arrested seven Filipino men, aged between 22 and 38, believed to be members of Abu Sayyaf who worked as security guards with private companies in Kuala Lumpur and surrounding areas. He said a 22-year-old suspect had fought against Filipino troops and was involved in kidnappings in southern Philippines. The men sneaked into Malaysia from eastern Sabah State on Borneo island in September 2015 and used false travel documents to fly to Kuala Lumpur. The arrests came from information obtained following the August 30 detention of eight suspected Abu Sayyaf members—two Filipinos and six Malaysians. One of the Filipinos planned to attack

the August 30 closing ceremony of the Southeast Asian Games as well as an Independence Day parade the next day.

# Maldives

**April 23:** Prominent blogger and human rights advocate Yameen Rasheed was found on the staircase of his apartment building in Male with 14 stab wounds in his chest and several others to his throat and head. He died in a hospital. The next day, his father said that Yameen had received death threats for months from local jihadi gangs. *AP* reported on May 3 that Maldives police arrested two suspects. On June 19 the *Washington Post* reported that police said they had enough evidence against seven detained people to file charges against them. Police named three people who they said carried out the killing.

# Myanmar

**January 29:** The Ministry of Information said in a video posted on state-run *MRTV* that a gunman assassinated Ko Ni, Supreme Court advocate for the National League for Democracy and a longtime adviser to Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi, at the arrival gate at Yangon's airport after returning from a trip overseas. The assassin then shot taxi driver Nay Win, who tried to detain him. Police arrested the gunman, identified as Kyi Linn from Mandalay. As an attorney, Ko Ni had handled more than 900 criminal cases and more than 1,400 civil cases. He and two other lawyers established the Laurel Law Firm in 1995. On January 30, police arrested a second alleged conspirator, Myint Swe, in Karen State, saying he hired gunman Kyi Lin. Government officials said Kyi Lin was an ex-convict who had been imprisoned for illegally trading in Buddha's statutes.

*AP* reported on February 16 that human rights lawyer Robert San Aung said a report by Myanmar's government alleging the involvement of a former army lieutenant colonel in the January 29 assassination of Ko Ni raised new questions about the murder. Aung asked how the plotters acquired two pistols for the gunman, when gun ownership by civilians is rare. The report from the office of President Htin Kyaw said the murder plot was launched in July 2016 and the gunman was to be paid 80 million kyat ($59,220). Two men, including the alleged shooter, had been arrested and reportedly confessed. One named his brother, former Lieutenant Colonel Aung Win Khaing, as having directed the plot. One suspect is an ex-convict who traded in antiquities, including busts of Buddha.

*AP* reported on February 25 that police and Home Ministry officials said that the killing was the result of a personal political grudge and not a larger conspiracy. Three men were arrested; a fourth was at large. A small group of retired military officers hired ex-convict Kyi Lin to be the gunman, reportedly paying him almost $60,000.

**June 9:** India's Nagaland state police chief L.L. Doungel said S.S. Khaplang, 77, head of a faction of the separatist National Socialist Council of Nagaland, died of renal failure in a hospital in Myanmar's Taga region, where the insurgent group is based. In 2015, he called off peace talks with the Indian government after 14 years of negotiations and resumed his fight for an independent Naga homeland. India blamed NSCN for killing 18 army soldiers in Manipur state bordering Myanmar in 2015.

**August 24–25:** At 10 a.m., some 100 Rohingya armed with guns, machetes, and homemade grenades attacked security forces at several police and border outposts during the night in Buthidaungand Maungdaw townships in Rakhine State. A dozen security personnel and 77 Rohingyas died. Ten people were shot to death in Maungdaw township. The Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) took credit for the August 24 nighttime attacks on more than 25 locations.

**September 24:** Police found the bodies of 28 Hindu females and eight Hindu boys, including six under ten years old, in two mass graves in Yebawkya village of Maungdaw township in Rakhine State. The government blamed the Muslim Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) insurgent group. Security forces said 100 Hindus went missing since ARSA attacked at least 30 police outposts on August 25.

**December 5:** *Radio Free Asia* reported that several girls found bomb-making materials near the deserted Muslim village of Kyaut Pandu in Maungdaw township.

**December 7:** *Radio Free Asia* reported that two bombs were found in the Htammayit New Town area of Mrauk-U township.

**December 8:** *Radio Free Asia* reported that four army soldiers were injured when their convoy of four military trucks from Army Brigade 33 hit three mines in Myebon township in Rakhine State an hour after Rakhine's Chief-Minister Nyi Pu and government officials traveled through the same area.

# Nepal

**April 18:** *NPR* and *Radio Vaticana* reported that at 3 a.m., a break-in and arson at the Assumption Cathedral in Kathmandu injured an Egyptian and partially damaged a priest's residence and destroyed a car and two motorbikes, but caused no injuries. A bomb had exploded at the church in 2009, killing three people, including a school girl, and injuring 15. In 2010, Ram Prasad Mainali, chief of the Nepal Defense Army, a Hindu extremist group, was arrested for the bombing. 17041802

# Pakistan

**January 4:** A roadside bomb hit a vehicle carrying police in Dera Ismail Khan, wounding four officers and 15 passers-by. No one immediately claimed credit.

**January 12:** During the night, masked gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed Muhammad Jan, 37, a journalist who was returning home in Kalat in Baluchistan Province. He had worked for the Urdu language daily *Qudrat*, and also taught at a school. No one claimed credit, although jihadis and Baluch separatists are active in the area.

**January 21:** A 12-kilogram bomb loaded with steel balls hit a market in Parachinar in the Kurram tribal region bordering Afghanistan, killing 25 and wounding 50. Ali Sufyan, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi spokesman, texted an *AP* reporter, "That was our combined work with Shahryar group of Mehsud Taliban." Ashiq Hussain was lightly wounded in the leg.

**February 6:** *Dawn* reported that Mohammad Zaki Abdu, third secretary of the Afghan Consulate in Karachi, was shot to death by his Afghan private security guard, Rahatullah, who fired on him inside the diplomatic mission in Karachi's Old Clifton area during the afternoon. Authorities arrested Rahatullah. Deputy police inspector Azad Khan attributed the incident to an argument between the two men. Omar Zakhilwal, Afghan ambassador to Pakistan, called it "a personal dispute-related criminal act" and ruled out terrorism.

**February 7:** Security forces announced guards at a police station in Bannu fired at a speeding car bomb before it could crash into the station's main gate. Two police officers were wounded in the Pakistani Taliban attack. The driver, who appeared to be in his late 20s, died.

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi set off a roadside bomb against a paramilitary vehicle, wounding two soldiers and a girl in a passing rickshaw in Chaman.

**February 12:** Gunmen fired on a *SAMAA-TV* crew in Karachi, killing satellite technician Tamour Khan, 22. Police officer Bashir Barohi said they were en route to cover a hand grenade attack on a police patrol that caused no injuries. Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan spokesman Mohammad Khurasani claimed credit, saying the media was siding with the government and army.

A roadside bomb killed three paramilitary soldiers in the Zarmilan area in the South Waziristan tribal region near the Afghan border during the night. Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan spokesman Mohammad Khurasani said five soldiers were killed and a vehicle was completely destroyed.

**February 13:** A Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (Freedom Movement) suicide bomber on a motorcycle set off his explosives in the middle of a protest demonstration of hundreds of pharmacists and drug company officials in Lahore, killing 13 people, including two senior police officers, among them a former provincial counter-terrorism chief, and four police officers, and wounding 80. The breakaway Pakistan Taliban faction said it was avenging Pakistani military operations against jihadis in tribal regions along the Afghan border. Tufail Nabi was injured in the leg.

**February 15:** Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a Pakistani Taliban splinter group, claimed credit for bombing the main gate of the administrative tribal headquarters in Ghalanai in the Mohmand tribal region at the start of the workday, killing three policemen and two passers-by. Hameedullah Khan, a local government official, said the bombing was followed by gunshots. The Pakistani army said the bomber was accompanied by another terrorist who tried to force his way into the compound after the explosion but that security guards opened fire and killed him.

A would-be suicide bomber prematurely detonated his explosives near a security convoy about six miles from the tribal headquarters. No one else was hurt.

Hours later, a suicide bomber struck a vehicle carrying local judges and judicial officials in Peshawar, wounding five people.

**February 16:** *Pakistan Television* reported that an IS suicide bomber hit worshippers at the shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, named after the famous Sufi saint buried there, in Sehwan in Sindh Province, killing 90 people, including 20 women and nine children—including a boy, Zeeshan Ali, 13—and wounding 343, including 40 critically. Hundreds of worshippers were performing their weekly Dhamal mystical dance. Pakistani forces killed 100 terrorists and arrested dozens of suspects in numerous raids.

Pakistani security forces raided a hideout in Khanewal district of Taliban-linked suspected jihadis, killing six of them. Authorities seized explosives, assault rifles, hand grenades and maps of installations.

**February 18–19:** Police counter-terrorism forces killed five Jamaat-ul Ahrar terrorists in an overnight raid and seized weapons and explosives from their hideout in Punjab Province. Four gunmen escaped. Nayab Haider, a spokesman for the counter-terrorism department, said that maps recovered from the raid show the terrorists planned to attack shrines and an air base in Multan.

**February 21:** Three suicide bombers carrying grenades and assault rifles attacked outside a courthouse in Tangi in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, killing six people, including a lawyer, a child, and four police officers, and injured 15 people, including a child who was hospitalized in Peshawar. One bomber set off his explosives vest at the court's main gate; police shot to death the other two terrorists. Jamaat-ul-Ahrar claimed credit.

**February 23:** Explosives hidden under a Lahore building under construction went off, killing seven people and wounding 30. It was not immediately clear whether the explosives were a bomb or were merely stored in the building of the Defense Housing Authority. Government minister Rana Sanaullah said on February 24 that authorities determined that a gas leak from a cooking cylinder caused the accidental explosion and that no traces of explosives were found.

**March 2:** *AP* reported on March 3 that a Taliban official said that a suspected U.S. drone strike in the area of Khost, Afghanistan the previous day killed two terrorists, including Qari Abdullah, a top commander of the Haqqani Network who in 2014 accompanied U.S. Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl when he was handed over to U.S. authorities.

**March 3:** Authorities in Punjab arrested 1,300 suspected militants, including Pashtuns and unregistered Afghan refugees, during a two-week operation. Two police said 36 militants died in shoot-outs with police and in paramilitary operations.

**March 4:** Two gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death prominent attorney Mohammed Jan Gigyani when he was driving his car in Shabqadar near a tribal region bordering Afghanistan. He was affiliated with the secular Qaumi Watan political party. Asad Mansoor, spokesman for Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility.

**March 6:** Jamaat-ul-Ahrar attacked three Pakistani military posts in tribal regions along the Afghan border, killing six soldiers. Authorities said that the terrorists had crossed overnight from Afghanistan into the Mohmand tribal region. Ten attackers died. 17030601

**March 7:** *Dawn* reported that the Pakistani Army killed five terrorists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Swabi district's Malikabad area. Two soldiers, including Captain Junaid, were killed. Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said the terrorists "were planning to target educational institutions and judicial complexes." Three terrorists were identified, while the remaining two were "probably Afghans." One was a member of Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan.

**March 8:** Authorities at a prison in the northwest hanged five "hardcore terrorists," members of Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan who were found guilty of carrying out attacks in the country.

**March 15:** Three members of the Pakistani Taliban and Harkat-ul-Jihad e-Islami who were earlier convicted by military courts of involvement in the killing of soldiers and police officers were executed in a prison in central Pakistan.

Gunmen intercepted the car of bureaucrat Abdullah Jan in Quetta and abducted him. No ransom or any other demand was made and no one claimed responsibility.

**March 16:** A Jamaat-ul-Ahrar cross-border attack on an army post in the Khyber tribal region killed two Pakistani soldiers. Six terrorists were killed. Asad Mansoor, a Jamaat-ul-Ahrar spokesman, said the group targeted the army post and warned of more such attacks.

**March 17:** Two suicide bombers attacked a Frontier Constabulary training facility in the morning, killing an officer and wounding two officers. More than 70 recruits were at the facility near Charsadda. Guards fired back. No group claimed credit.

**March 22:** Soldiers clashed with militants during a raid in the Orakzai tribal region near the Afghan border; two soldiers and five terrorists, including a local Pakistani Taliban commander, were killed.

**March 27:** The Islamabad High Court temporarily barred the extradition to the U.S. of Talha Haroon, a U.S. citizen of Pakistani origin accused of planning a terrorist attack in New York with help from ISIS. He was detained in Pakistan in 2016. He was represented by attorney Tariq Asad. A follow-up hearing was scheduled for April 11.

**March 30:** A gunman was arrested after he shot and killed attorney Saleem Latif in Nankana in Punjab Province. Latif was from Pakistan's minority Ahmadi sect and was a cousin of Pakistan's 1979 Nobel physics laureate Abdus Salam. The attacker claimed he had committed blasphemy. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi spokesman Ali Bin Sufyan claimed credit, saying Latif was killed for his Ahmadi beliefs.

**March 31:** A car bomb killed 24 and wounded more than 100, five critically, near the women's entrance to a Shi'ite mosque near the Noor Market in Parachinar in the Kurram tribal region bordering Afghanistan. Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a splinter of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed credit. Spokesman Asad Mansoor said that one of the group's members, Abul Durda, used a car bomb to target Shi'ites whom J-u-A consider heretics. The bomb damaged vehicles and nearby shops. Among the hospitalized was shopkeeper Kamran Ali, who sustained a head injury.

The Army killed a "high-value" Pakistani Taliban leader, Mehmood-ul-Hassan, along with an associate in a raid in the South Waziristan tribal region. Troops also seized a cache of weapons from the hideouts of slain terrorists.

**April 1:** The *Voice of America*, *NBC News* and *Reuters* reported that Abdul Waheed, 50, the custodian of the Muhammad Ali Sufi shrine in Sargodha in the Punjab region and several accomplices tortured and murdered with clubs and knives 20 people, including six women, mostly with hits to the back of the neck, and critically wounded four other people in a cult ritual during the night. One of the injured women,

Kishwar, reached a hospital and tipped police, who raided the shrine and captured six people, including Waheed, who police said "called his faithful one by one to a room where he killed them using daggers and sticks." Liaquat Ali Chatta, government administrator of the area, said Waheed had confessed to the murders. The shrine was built two years earlier on the grave of local religious leader Ali Mohamad Gujjar. Local television reported that Waheed gave intoxicated food to devotees and then called them one by one to his room, where they were killed, naked. Among the dead was Asif Gujar, 35, Ali's only son.

**April 3:** *Dawn* reported that the armed forces' Inter-Services Public Relations media announced that eight members of the banned Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, including Akbar, Gull, Siraj and five of their accomplices, had surrendered before the Army in Mohmand Agency during the night.

**April 5:** *Dawn, Geo News* and *AP* reported that a Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber set off his explosives in the morning near a vehicle carrying census workers on Bedian Road in suburban Lahore, killing two data collectors and four soldiers who were escorting them, wounding 19, three critically, and damaging nearby shops. Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khurasani said that the group sought to target Pakistan's "impure army" that he called a "slave of America." He said the group's leader, Mullah Fazlullah, who was believed to be hiding in Afghanistan, ordered the attack.

**April 8:** The counter-terrorism department said police killed ten terrorists in a shoot-out after coming under attack in Lahore. The dead included a key facilitator of a recent suicide attack in which 13 people were killed in Lahore. The police were en route to raiding a hideout based on information gleaned from Anwarul Haq, the alleged facilitator of a February 13 suicide bombing, who was briefly held by terrorists before fleeing. Officers traced them near a river in Lahore. The terrorists were apparently Taliban or members of Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a breakaway faction of Taliban.

**April 14:** Paramilitary Rangers raided a militant hideout in the Dera Ghazi Khan district, sparking a gun battle that killed three soldiers and ten gunmen, including local commanders, and wounded two soldiers.

**April 15:** In an overnight raid, security forces foiled a planned "major terrorist attack" on Christians, killing a terrorist and detaining another in Lahore. Four soldiers were wounded.

**April 16:** *Dawn* reported that the director general of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Major General Asif Ghafoor, announced that Ehsanullah Ehsan, variant Ahsan, former spokesperson of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and a senior leader of the Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, had voluntarily surrendered. Authorities said he left the main Pakistani Taliban four years earlier and joined the breakaway faction, which claimed a March 31 car bomb near a Shi'ite mosque that killed 24 people. Information from Ehsan led to other arrests and a weapons cache.

Major General Ghafoor also showed a recorded confessional statement of Naureen Leghari, a medical student from Hyderabad who allegedly fled home to join ISIS in Syria. She Leghari was arrested on April 14 after her husband, whom she had married after leaving her home and joining ISIS, was killed in an encounter in Punjab Housing Society. She said, "I am a second-year student at the Liaquat Medical University…. I went to Lahore on my own, no one kidnapped me…. Our main plan was to carry out terrorist activities…. These included suicide attacks and kidnapping intelligence officials…. A young man named Fauji was involved in these activities…. On April 1, our organization gave us four suicide jackets, some hand grenades and bullets. These were to be used in a suicide attack on a church in Lahore. I was supposed to be the suicide bomber."

**April 18:** Microbiology professor Tahira Malik, 61, from the Ahmadi sect, was found stabbed to death in Lahore.

**April 19:** General Qamar Javed Bajwa, chief of the army, signed off on the death sentences for 30 terrorists, including some convicted in military courts for the 2014 Taliban attack on a school in Peshawar that killed 144 schoolchildren.

**April 25:** A roadside bomb hit a van traveling through a minority Shi'ite region near Parachinar in the Kurram tribal area, which borders Afghanistan, killing 14 people, including five women and four children, and wounding ten people. Jamat-ul-Ahrar, a Taliban splinter, claimed credit

Four convicted members of the Pakistani Taliban were executed in a prison.

Paramilitary forces raided a Karachi apartment following a tip that terrorists were hiding there. Following a seven-hour siege, three terrorists, including a woman, blew themselves up, killing a 5-year-old. The fourth gunman died while trying to escape.

**April 29:** *UPI* reported that a gunman in Peshawar fired into the car of Maulvi Daud, a former Taliban governor of Kabul, Afghanistan, killing him near the Shamshatoo refugee camp in Peshawar. Daud's driver and another person were also killed. The Islamic State claimed credit, but the Taliban blamed Afghan intelligence.

**May 2:** Taliban gunmen crossed from Afghanistan and attacked two Pakistani checkpoints in the South Waziristan tribal region, setting off gun battles. The army said it killed three terrorists and injured several others who fled across the border. The Taliban said

its 120 gunmen were avenging a recent suspected U.S. drone strike that targeted them in North Waziristan. 17050201

**May 3:** In the morning, authorities executed four Pakistani Taliban members who were convicted by military courts after they had confessed involvement in attacks against civilians and the military.

**May 12:** The *Long War Journal* reported that an ISIS-K suicide bomber attacked a vehicle carrying Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, deputy chairman of Pakistan's Senate, in Mastung in Baluchistan Province. Haideri, a senior figure in the Jamiatul-Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F), was hospitalized. Dozens of others were killed or injured in the blast, which occurred in Mastung, a town in the Baluchistan province. ISIS-K said its "martyr was Abu Nandalah al-Khurasani. By the grace of Allah, istishhadi ['martyr'] brother Abu Nandalah al-Khurasani (may Allah accept him) was able to detonate his explosive vest on the convoy of the murtadd ['apostate'] Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, the vice president of the taghut Pakistani Congress near Quetta City in Pakistan … resulted in his injury, the killing of more than 30 murtaddin of the police, intelligence personnel and bodyguards, and the injury of more than 40 others, and all praise is due to Allah." *LWJ* reported that JUI-F had supported the Afghan Taliban, training many of its members in JUI-F madrassas in Baluchistan Province and northwestern Pakistan.

**May 13:** *Dawn* reported that two Baloch Liberation Army gunmen on motorbikes fired on laborers working on a road at two construction sites three kilometers apart in Balochistan's Gwadar District's Pishgan area, killing ten.

**May 20:** Terrorists threw grenades at a school and four homes in Shabqadar near Mohmand tribal agency, wounding 15 people.

**May 21:** Jamaat-ul-Ahrar gunmen killed four policemen, including the area police chief, his deputy chief, and two constables, in an attack on a returning patrol in Khoat district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province in the northwest.

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi gunmen on a motorcycle in Karachi's upscale Bahadurabad neighborhood fired on a stationary police van, killing two policemen and wounding two others, one critically.

**May 22:** A roadside bomb was remotely detonated in Tirah valley in the Khyber tribal region as volunteers from a government-backed militia were moving in the area close to the Afghan border, killing five people and wounding several others.

**May 23:** *Dawn* reported that Balochistan Home Minister Sarfaraz Bugti told the press that the government had arrested Saeed Ahmed, alias Taqva, the suspected mastermind of several major terror activities in the provincial capital, and two of the individual's associates. Taqva claimed in a video confession that he was trained by Afghan and Indian intelligence agencies. He confessed to the killing of Barrister Amanullah Achakzai; the principal of a law college, Bilal Anwar Kasi; and the president of the Balochistan Bar Association, among others; and to facilitating the August 8, 2016, suicide bombing of the Civil Hospital that killed more than 70 people, including 54 members of the legal fraternity. He was believed to have facilitated the bombing at Shah Noorani shrine on November 13, 2016, in Khuzdar district.

**May 24:** The *Long War Journal* reported that the Pakistani Taliban said on *Telegram* that a U.S. drone strike killed two of its operatives in North Waziristan on May 24, and the Taliban had "retaliated" by attacking Pakistani forces. The group said they were "companions" of its emir for North Waziristan, commander Akhtar Muhammad Khalil, who survived. Two of Khalil's followers were killed in the attack. One of them was Abdullah, "a great master in electronics."

**May 24:** Police spokesman Shahzada Farhat said gunmen kidnapped a Chinese couple en route to teach at a private language school in Quetta. They grabbed the couple from their car, injuring a bodyguard in a shoot-out. *CNN* reported on June 9 that ISIS had killed the Chinese teachers. ISIS's *Amaq* news service had reported on June 8 that ISIS had killed Lee Zing Yang, 24, and Meng Li Si, 26, who were being held in Mastung, Balochistan. The group released a video showing two bodies shot and bleeding on grassy ground. Pakistan's military said that its security forces conducted an operation from June 1 to 3 in Mastung, where it said it killed a dozen terrorists with links to ISIS that had been hiding in caves. Pakistani Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan confirmed the couple's death on June 12. 17052401

**May 30:** Police officer Shaukat Khan said Haji Mohammad Farid, personal secretary and son-in-law of Afghan warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, was found shot to death outside a mosque outside Peshawar.

**June 2:** Four male would-be kidnappers intercepted the car of Azaz Syed, a journalist working for Pakistan's independent *Geo* news channel, as he was driving home from his office. He locked his doors and drove to a nearby police station.

**June 3:** The government froze the accounts of 5,000 suspected terrorists, seizing $3 million.

**June 11:** Police spokesman Shazada Farhat said two gunmen on a motorcycle fired on a police post in Quetta, killing two officers and wounding another and a civilian.

*Dawn* reported that a bomb exploded when a vehicle rolled over it in the Johan area of Kalat, injuring three security officials.

A gunman killed journalist Bakhshish Illahi, 39, bureau chief of a local daily newspaper and television station, near his home while on his way to his office in Haripur. The father of four and had recently joined television channel *K-2* and daily newspaper *K-2 Times* after serving at another local newspaper for 14 years.

**June 13:** *AP* reported that three Pakistani intelligence officials said that a suspected U.S. missile strike killed Haqqani Network commander Abu Bakr and his aide in the country's northwest. They said two missiles hit a house in a village five kilometers south of Thal in the morning.

**June 15:** Gunmen fired on a police patrol in Peshawar during the night, killing three officers.

**June 16:** Counterterrorism officers raided two hideouts in the morning, triggering shoot-outs in which two "terrorists" were killed and three others arrested in the district of Dera Ghazi Khan. The terrorists were planning attacks during Ramadan. Three militants were captured in a separate raid in Multan.

**June 19:** *Dawn* reported that during the night, four gunmen on two motorbikes ambushed a navy vehicle in the Jiwani area of Gwadar district in Balochistan, killing two Navy sailors and wounding three others. The sailors were transporting *iftar* items during a run from Jiwani.

**June 23:** A suicide car bomber struck near the office of the provincial police chief in Quetta in Baluchistan Province during the morning, killing 14 people and wounding 20. A breakaway Pakistani Taliban faction, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, claimed credit. Spokesman Asad Mansoor said the bombing was part of their campaign to enforce Islamic laws in the country. The Islamic State also claimed credit, saying that one of its followers, Abu Othman al-Khorasani, set off his suicide belt.

Hours later, two bombs exploded minutes apart at a crowded market in Parachinar in the Kurram tribal region, killing 67 people, mostly Shi'ites, and hospitalizing 261, with 62 in critical condition. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi linked the bombings to sectarian fighting in Syria.

Gunmen attacked police officers at a roadside restaurant in Karachi, killing four.

**June 24:** Security forces raided a terrorist safehouse in Peshawar before dawn, killing three Pakistani Taliban gunmen. Two police officers were wounded. Police discovered bombs that likely would have been used against Eid al-Fitr celebrations. One of the men was a wanted terrorist commander linked to ISIS.

**July 10:** A suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit a vehicle carrying police chief Sajid Khan Mohmand in Chaman in Baluchistan Province near the Afghan border town of Spin Boldak, killing the officer, his guard and a civilian, wounding eleven people, including three police officers and eight passers-by, and damaging nearby shops in the main bazaar.

A roadside bomb hit a convoy of security forces in the Kurram tribal region, killing two officers and wounding five.

**July 13:** Gunmen ambushed a vehicle carrying a senior police officer in Quetta, killing the officer and three other policemen.

**July 14:** In the morning, two suicide bombers attacked a military camp in the Khyber tribal region in northwest Pakistan, sparking a shoot-out in which the attackers were killed and two soldiers wounded. One terrorist detonated his suicide vest; snipers killed the second terrorist. Asad Mansoor, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar spokesman, claimed credit.

**July 17:** *NPR* reported that Tehrik-e-Taliban was suspected when suicide bombers killed three paramilitary Frontier Corps border protection soldiers and wounded eight.

A Taliban suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit a Frontier Corps vehicle in Peshawar, killing two troops and wounding seven. Hours later, a bomb went off in Chaman Province, killing one soldier and wounding another.

**July 19:** Gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death four members of a Shi'ite family, including a woman, and their Sunni driver in Mastung, 45 miles south of Quetta, in Baluchistan Province.

**July 20:** Soldiers raided several militant hideouts in the Khyber tribal region, killing 13 "terrorists." One soldier died in the firefights.

**July 21:** Gunmen on a motorcycle shot at a police vehicle in Karachi's Korangi neighborhood, killing three officers and a passer-by and wounding two other people.

**July 24:** A Tehrik-e-Taliban suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit near a police team guarding a demolition site at Kot Lakhpat's vegetable market near the secretariat of Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif on the outskirts of Lahore, killing 26, including eight officers, and wounding 54, many of them police officers.

**July 29:** A roadside bomb hit a vehicle carrying villagers in Panjgur in Baluchistan Province near Iran, killing four people and wounding five others.

**August 7:** *Reuters* reported that an explosion near parked fruit trucks in an empty lot in Lahore wounded 22 people, collapsed the roof of small school building and destroyed a truck. No one claimed credit.

**August 9:** The Pakistani Taliban fired on authorities in the Dir tribal region on the border with Afghanistan in the morning. A suicide bomber blew himself up, and another was shot and killed during a raid on a home. An Army major and three other officers died. The slain officers included an intelligence officer,

according to the army. One terrorist was captured. Mohammad Khurasani, Pakistani Taliban spokesman, said the soldiers were targeted when they came for a search operation. "We will continue to avenge the killing of our fellow fighters in custody."

**August 11:** Gunmen on a motorcycle shot at a vehicle carrying a senior Pakistani police officer in Karachi, killing him and his guard before fleeing. No one claimed credit.

Hours later, a remotely-detonated bomb went off in Bajour in Char Mang district in a remote northwestern tribal region bordering Afghanistan, killing three people and wounding 25.

**August 12:** A suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit a military truck in Quetta, killing eight soldiers and seven civilians, and wounding 25 people, including 15 civilians, near a private hospital. The attacker was carrying some 25 kilograms of "incendiary explosives." No group claimed credit.

**August 14:** A roadside bomb killed six paramilitary troops and wounded another two when a Frontier Corps patrol was passing by in Baluchistan Province. No group claimed credit.

**August 16:** Drive-by gunmen on motorcycles killed a junior police officer passing through a bazaar on his motorcycle in Bannu, near the North Waziristan tribal region. Jamaat-ul-Ahrar spokesman Asad Mansoor claimed credit.

The U.S. designated Hizbul Mujahideen, a Kashmiri separatist group, as a foreign terrorist organization. In June 2017, the U.S. designated its founder, Syed Salahuddin, as a terrorist. The next day, Pakistan's foreign ministry expressed anger and disappointment.

**August 19:** Gunmen on a motorcycle killed Attaullah Shah, a local leader of the pro–Taliban Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam party as he was walking home in the morning after praying at a mosque in Dera Ismail Khan.

**August 27:** During the night, a bomb exploded during a military search operation in the Angur Adda tribal region near Afghanistan, killing two Pakistani soldiers.

**August 30:** During the night, gunmen in an SUV threw rotten eggs and then shot a 9mm pistol at a group of transgender people, killing one of them, Chanda, in Karachi. Transgender people are called Khusra or Heejra.

**September 2:** Two gunmen targeting ethnic party lawmaker Khawaja Izharul Hasan, a member of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement, which represents the Urdu-speaking population, after Eid prayers instead killed a child and a police officer in Karachi. Izharul was unharmed. Police shot to death one attacker during a chase.

On September 4, police conducted an early morning raid on the eastern Karachi home of the suspected mastermind, Abdul Karim Siddiqi, who killed a police officer and wounded another before escaping. Siddiqi was wounded. Hours later, police raided a construction site in eastern Karachi, where four Islamic militants were holed up. During an hour-long gun battle, all four militants were killed. Among them was Khurshid, a cousin and close aide of Mullah Fazlullah, head of the Tahrik-e-Taliban Pakistan. Khurshid was believed to have been involved in the 2012 attack on Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani activist for female education and youngest-ever Nobel Prize laureate who was badly injured after being shot by a Taliban gunman.

**September 10:** Gunmen killed four Shi'ite Hazaras and wounded two other people during the night near Quetta. The victims were traveling to Quetta and were attacked when they stopped for fuel for their vehicle. No one claimed credit.

The *Voice of America* reported that two jihadis disaffected with ISIS had formed the new al-Qaeda-inspired Ansar al-Sharia Pakistan in Karachi. Major General Mohammad Saeed, head of the Rangers paramilitary security force in Karachi, told local media, "The Ansar al-Sharia group started killings in Karachi since the beginning of this year and claimed responsibility for killing an army officer on Faisal Highway." The group attacked "the police only." The group tweeted, "We give glad tidings to Muslim Ummah that a large number of Mujahideen from Karachi, Punjab and tribal areas are leaving ranks of IS and announce disassociation with [it]."

**September 17:** A remotely-detonated roadside bomb hit a vehicle, killing Fawad Ali, an assistant administrator in the Bajur tribal government and five tribal police near the Afghan border. The Pakistani Taliban claimed credit.

**September 18:** Local administrator Qaiser Khan Nasir said that a suicide bomber targeting a paramilitary patrol failed when the vehicle sped away. The explosion instead hit passers-by, killing one civilian and wounding a dozen, three critically, near the Chaman border crossing with Afghanistan. Majlis-e-Abrar, a Pakistani Taliban splinter, claimed credit.

**September 19:** *Dawn* reported that three security officials were injured when their vehicle hit a landmine in Kurram Agency.

Security forces killed two suspected militant commanders, destroyed two insurgent camps, and recovered large amounts of arms and ammunition in Balochistan's Dera Bugti district.

**September 23:** The Pakistani army said "terrorists" firing across the border in Afghanistan attacked a newly built border post in the recently cleared Rajgal Valley in Pakistan, killing post commander Lt. Arsalan Alam. 17092301

**October 4:** Authorities executed three terrorists sentenced to death by military courts after being convicted of carrying out terror attacks in recent years. They were executed in a prison in the northwest.

**October 5:** A suicide bomber set off his explosives vest during a routine search by a police officer at a Shi'ite shrine in the remote southwestern Jhal Magsi village in Baluchistan Province, killing 24, including five children, a woman, and two police officers, and wounding 25, several critically. Hundreds of worshippers were inside for a monthly gathering. Sunni terrorists were suspected; IS claimed credit.

**October 9:** Gunmen ambushed a car with minority Shi'ites in Quetta, killing four of them and a passerby and wounding two passers-by. Sunni terrorists were suspected.

A Taliban attack on a military vehicle in the Dosali area of North Waziristan killed three soldiers and wounded seven others. Pakistani officials said the gunmen had crossed over from Afghanistan. Maqbool Dawar, a commander of Tahrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, claimed credit. 17100902

**October 12:** The Pakistani Taliban killed local journalist Haroon Khan in Swabi, accusing him of secretly working for Pakistani intelligence.

**October 18:** A Pakistani Taliban car bomber crashed into a police truck in the Saryab Road area of Quetta, killing five policemen and two civilians and wounding 24 people, several critically. The Pakistani Taliban said the attack was a "suicide mission." Some observers suggested the bomb was remotely detonated.

Two gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death counter-terrorism police inspector Abdus Salam as he was en route to work in Quetta. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Almi claimed credit.

A roadside bomb went off near a security post close to the North Waziristan tribal region along the border with Afghanistan, killing two members of Pakistani paramilitary forces. The duo was returning from Mir Ali when the bomb went off near their vehicle. A local commander of the Pakistani Taliban, Sharyar Mahsud, took credit.

**October 21:** Paramilitary Rangers along with counterterrorism police raided a Karachi house and killed eight Ansar al-Shariya "terrorists" in a shoot-out. A counterterrorism officer and two Rangers were wounded. Authorities seized weapons and explosives.

**October 27:** A bomb exploded under the vehicle of Abdur Razzaq, local leader of the secular Awami National Party, in Harnai in Baluchistan Province, killing him and his brother. Authorities were trying to determine whether the bomb was hidden inside the car.

**October 29:** Qazi Mohammad Nabi Ahmadi, deputy governor of Afghanistan's Kunar Province, was reported missing in Peshawar, where he was seeking medical treatment. He was a leader of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hizb-i-Islami party.

**October 30:** A roadside bomb killed a paramilitary Frontier Corps soldier and wounded another. They were bringing water containers on mules for their post in the South Waziristan tribal region's Tiarza area near the Afghan border. A local Taliban faction claimed credit.

**November 1:** Police arrested Aasia Bibi, 21, a newly married woman for murder after she allegedly poisoned her husband's milk the night of October 24, and inadvertently killed 17 other people in the remote village of Basti Lashari. Police were determining whether she was inspired by her boyfriend, Shahid Lashari, in the previous week's killings. Police said she was married against her will in September in a village near Ali Pur in Punjab Province. Police said she obtained the rat poison from her boyfriend. Her husband, Mohammad Amjad, her cousin, refused to drink the poisoned potion. Her mother-in-law, Janat Bibi, 52, later unknowingly used the tainted milk to make a traditional Lassi yogurt-based drink and served it to 27 members of her extended family. Seventeen died, including eight children aged seven to twelve, Amjad's two brothers, his three sisters-in-law and some distant relatives, and ten were hospitalized. On November 8, Pakistani police arrested Zarina Begum, 49, for conspiring with her niece to poison the husband.

**November 9:** A Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan suicide bomber hit a vehicle carrying Hamid Shakil, deputy inspector general of police, as his convoy passed through a residential area in Quetta, killing him and three other officers and wounding nine people, including police officers. Police said the attacker used 33 pounds of explosive material.

Gunmen from Afghanistan attacked one of the army's newly-built border posts in the Khyber tribal region, sparking a shoot-out in which one soldier and five terrorists were killed.

**November 12:** The Pakistani Taliban announced that the Hizbul Ahrar group, formed in Nangarhar Province of Afghanistan on November 11, will be led by Mukarram Khan, who had been a commander and spokesman for the Jamaat-ul-Ahrar group. Khan left Jamaat-ul-Ahrar over differences with its chief over attacks against innocent minority Christians, killing civilians, extortion, kidnapping for ransom and other acts he deemed un–Islamic. Umar Khalid Khurasani formed Jamaat-ul-Ahrar in 2014.

**November 13:** Soldiers killed eight "terrorists" and wounded many others who tried to attack a post near the Afghan border. A Pakistani captain and soldier were killed and four other soldiers were wounded.

**December 1:** *Reuters, NBC News,* and *CBS News* reported that Pakistani Taliban gunmen wearing burqas

arrived in an auto-rickshaw, shot and wounded two students and two guards, then attacked the campus of the Agriculture Training Institute in Peshawar, killing nine students and wounding 37 others, including two soldiers, seven policemen, a reporter and a private guard during Eid Miladun Nabi, a major Muslim holiday celebrating the birth of the Prophet Muhammad. Police and soldiers killed all attackers during a two-hour siege. Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khorasani said that they had targeted a safe house of the military's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency. Among the wounded was student Ahteshan ul-Haq. The local police chief said, "Three suicide bombers armed with AK-47 assault rifles and hand grenades entered the hostel and opened fire on the students before triggering their explosives-filled jackets." Authorities rescued dozens of students and others during the operation and seized an explosive vest, hand grenades and several assault rifles. The complex is 20 miles from the Afghan border.

*Dawn* reported that at 3:35 p.m., a bomb exploded near the vehicle of peace committee commander Wali Jan Mehsud as he was on his way to attend a Jirga with his brother, Ahmad Jan, and tribal elders. The bomb killed five people, including Mehsud, and seriously injured two others in South Waziristan Agency.

**December 2:** *Al-Jazeera* reported that Pakistani peace activist Raza Mahmood Khan, 40, a member of the Aghaz-e-Dosti (Initiation of Friendship) organization, was abducted from his home in Lahore. He was active in promoting India-Pakistan friendship.

**December 5:** *Dawn* reported that a bomb attached to a motorcycle exploded next to a military vehicle carrying three civilian candidates seeking recruitment in the army in the Mir Ali area of North Waziristan, killing six people, including the three candidates and three civilian bystanders, and injuring eight.

**December 8:** The Chinese Embassy in Islamabad warned its citizens to be on alert after receiving intelligence reports about a "series of terror attacks" planned against Chinese organizations and personnel in Pakistan.

**December 17:** *Fox News, CNN, AP* and *Time Magazine* reported that two suicide bombers attacked the Bethel Memorial Methodist Church on Zarghoon Road in Quetta, killing nine people, including three women and wounding more than 57, including five women and two children. Seven people were critically wounded. A church security guard shot to death one attacker outside the church, but the other got to the entrance hall as services opened. He shot at the 400 churchgoers before he was shot by a church security guard, then set off his suicide vest. Aqil Anjum was shot in his right arm. Police searched for two suspected accomplices who escaped the scene. The Islamic State claimed credit, saying two IS "plungers" had attacked the church.

**December 22:** The military said "terrorists" from Afghanistan fired on Pakistani security forces in the Mohmand tribal region along the Afghan border, killing three troops. Pakistani troops returned fire, killing five "terrorists."

**December 24:** A roadside bomb exploded as bomb disposal soldiers were clearing a road in Gulam Khan in the North Waziristan tribal region ahead of a security convoy, killing three soldiers. No one claimed credit.

# Philippines

**January 4:** Before dawn, more than 100 suspected jihadi gunmen attacked the North Cotabato District Jail in Kidapawan, Cotabato Province, freeing 158 inmates and killing a guard. One inmate was wounded. Two prisoners were recaptured, one by local villagers. By the next day, authorities had recaptured 34 of the escapees. Five inmates who resisted capture were killed, as was a village official who allegedly drew a gun on police. Acting Provincial Jail Warden Superintendent Peter John Bongngat, Jr., said the attackers were suspected to include members of the outlawed Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters and guerrillas who broke away from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. The two groups denied involvement.

**January 5:** In a shoot-out with police, Mohammed Jaafar Maguid, leader of Ansar al-Khilafah Philippines, died in Sarangani Province's Kiamba town after resisting arrest at a beach resort. Three of Maguid's followers were arrested.

**January 15:** President Rodrigo Duterte ordered his troops to bomb extremists who flee with their captives in a bid to stop a wave of kidnappings at sea, calling the loss of civilian lives "collateral damage." He told the navy and the coast guard that "if there are kidnappers and they're trying to escape, bomb them all…. They say 'hostages.' Sorry, collateral damage…. You can't gain mileage for your wrongdoing, I will really have you blasted…. So, really, don't allow yourselves to be kidnapped."

**January 24–25:** On January 27, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana announced that airstrikes and ground assaults on January 24–25 killed at least four terrorists, possibly including a Malaysian, and wounded the chief target, Maute leader Isnilon Hapilon, who was trying to establish a new base for an alliance backing ISIS. On January 29, military Chief of Staff General Eduardo Ano said airstrikes used South Korean-made FA50 supersonic fighter jets for the first time in combat and killed 15 terrorists, including Mohisen, an Indonesian terrorist leader whose body was recovered by troops along with three dead Fil-

ipino followers of jihadi leader Isnilon Hapilon, who was seriously wounded in the arm in the hilly outskirts of Butig in Lanao del Sur Province. Hapilon apparently escaped from a camp in the mountainous hinterlands of Butig in southern Lanao del Sur Province. The U.S. had offered a $5 million reward for Hapilon's capture; he was indicted in the District of Columbia for alleged involvement in attacks on Americans and other foreigners in the southern Philippines. The Abu Sayyaf commander pledged allegiance to ISIS in 2014, then set up the alliance Dawlatul Islam Wilayatul Mashriq, which includes ten small jihadi groups including some Abu Sayyaf factions, the Maute and two other groups established by Malaysian and Indonesian militants.

**February:** *AP* reported on July 13 that Philippine troops found the body of Vietnamese hostage Viet Van Tran on July 8 after fighting in the jungles of Patiul in Sulu Province. Four Abu Sayyaf terrorists and a soldier died in the fighting. Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana said, "There are two possible scenarios. It's either he was hit during the fighting or he tried to escape while taking advantage of the situation and was shot by some of his abductors."

**February 9:** Sixty suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels abducted three villagers, including a policeman on a motorcycle, and burned a backhoe and two trucks at a construction company compound in Talakag in Bukidnon Province. They called President Rodrigo Duterte a "double-speaking thug" for terminating peace talks. They had failed to extort money from the firm. One of the two abducted villagers was later found dead.

The NPA burned two trucks transporting copper ore in the northern mountain town of Itogon in Benguet Province but caused no injuries.

**February 19:** Coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo said the Vietnamese coast guard reported that during the night, gunmen attacked the *MV Giang Hai*, a Vietnamese cargo ship with 17 crewmen on board, about 20 miles north of Pearl Bank in Tawi-Tawi Province. The gunmen killed a Vietnamese crewman and abducted six others, including the vessel's captain. The Philippine coast guard, police and marines found the ship adrift near Baguan Island, and found ten Vietnamese sailors alive and one dead. The vessel was transporting 4,500 tons of cement from Indonesia to the Philippines. The gunmen had destroyed some of the ship's equipment. Abu Sayyaf was suspected. 17021901

**March 3:** Sulu Province military commander Colonel Cirilito Sobejana said ten terrorists were killed in a clash that wounded 18 troops near Patikul town.

**March 5:** Marines killed four Abu Sayyaf terrorists in an assault near Maimbung, Sulu Province.

**March 25:** An individual threw a grenade in Busbus village near the domestic airport in Jolo in Sulu Province, killing four and injuring 23. Police said the nighttime attack did not appear to be related to terrorism. Sedimar Rabbah was arrested. Police said he returned to the area to retaliate after being beaten by a group of men who accused him of stealing a cellphone.

**March 30:** A battle between Philippine troops and 30 communist rebels in Nakar east of Manila killed ten gunmen and two soldiers and wounded two soldiers.

**April 6:** The government announced that Philippine army intelligence agents, police and immigration authorities arrested suspected IS members Hussein Aldhafiri, 40, a Kuwaiti, and Rahaf Zina Dhafiri, 27, a Syrian, in late March in an upscale commercial district in Taguig city in Manila. Officials thanked U.S. and Kuwaiti security officials who helped them identify the potential bombers. Aldhafiri entered the Philippines in January 2017. He had traveled to the country in 2016 as a tourist and later obtained a work visa. The Kuwaiti government planned to cancel his passport to allow the Philippines to deport him. He would likely face terrorism charges in Kuwait. Dhafiri was reportedly the widow of a top ISIS commander in Syria and later became Aldhafiri's partner. She said that she was pregnant. She was likely to be deported to Qatar, where she last came from before flying to Manila. Earlier in 2017, the couple traveled to Davao and Cebu.

**April 11:** Nine gunmen, three soldiers, an elderly village couple, and a policeman died in a gun battle between the government and suspected Abu Sayyaf terrorists in Inabanga's Napo village and two outlying villages in Bohol Province. The gunmen had arrived on three motor boats, then took cover in three houses. Troops recovered four assault rifles, rifle grenades and a sack of bomb-making materials, including detonating cords, blasting caps and electronic bomb parts, and a homemade bomb. Authorities were searching for five more Abu Sayyaf gunmen. Military chief of staff General Eduardo Ano announced the next day that among the dead terrorists was young Abu Sayyaf spokesman and commander Moammar Askali, alias Abu Rami, who was involved in the beheadings of two Canadians and a German and who had sailed far from the terrorists' southern jungle hideouts to capture more hostages. He had pledged allegiance to ISIS and had been trained in bombmaking by Malaysian Zulkifli bin Hir, alias Marwan, a senior Southeast Asia jihadi leader who was killed in 2015. Askali led the Marakat Ansar Battalion AS faction, one of ten small armed groups that pledged allegiance to ISIS three years earlier and formed an ISIS-inspired alliance in the southern Philippines. Officials said on April 15 that the foiled bombing/kidnapping

was to be conducted by three nascent ISIS affiliates against a resort island.

Also killed in the gun battle was Sulu-based Edimar Isnain, who had worked with Malaysian and Indonesian terrorists in making bombs and providing bomb-making training for recruits of Abu Sayyaf and the Dawla Islamiya Ranao, also known as the Maute group, based in Lanao del Sur Province.

The gunmen were guided to Inabanga's interior by Islamic convert Joselito Melloria, alias Abu Alih. Military officials believed he may have been picked to lead the ISIS-linked Ansar Khilafa Philippines. The group's previous leader, Mohammad Jaafar Maguid, was killed by Philippine counterterrorism forces in Sarangani Province in January 2017. Melloria was wounded but escaped. On April 22 government troops and police killed four suspected jihadis, including Joselito Melloria, in a clash with seven gunmen near Clarin in Bohol Province. President Rodrigo Duterte had offered a 1 million peso ($20,000) reward for information leading to their capture. Melloria converted to Islam when he married a Muslim woman in Zamboanga del Sur Province in 2005. After a year in Saudi Arabia, he returned to the Philippines in 2015 and joined Maute, which pledged allegiance to ISIS. He later assimilated with another IS-linked group, Ansar Khilafa Philippines, and Abu Sayyaf.

**April 13:** Abu Sayyaf beheaded a kidnapped Filipino fishing boat captain in Sulu Province, possibly in retaliation for the death of their comrades in Bohol earlier in the week and the failure of the hostage's family to pay ransom.

**April 24:** Troops captured a Maute jungle camp and killed 37 gunmen, including three Indonesians and a Malaysian, near Piagapo in Lanao del Sur Province. Three soldiers were wounded. Troops seized homemade bombs, grenades, combat uniforms and passports of suspected Indonesian militants. The foreigners were Jemaah Islamiyah alumni who recently allied with ISIS.

**April 28:** Philippine marines killed Alhabsy Misaya, an Abu Sayyaf commander and kidnapper who had sailed across the sea border into Malaysia to snatch tourists and sailors for ransom. He died in the jungles between Indanan and Parang in Sulu Province. He was blamed for kidnapping of dozens of Indonesian, Vietnamese and Malaysian crewmen of cargo ships and tugboats, including a Malaysian who was beheaded in November 2015.

**May 5:** Police, aided by a SWAT team, conducted a morning raid of the Manila house of Saro, a suspect in an April 28 explosion, and confiscated materials to be used for two more pipe bombs, shotgun ammunition, and electrical bomb parts. Saro was not in the house.

**May 6:** Police claimed that a package bomb that killed two people in a Muslim community in Manila's Quiapo district was sparked by a personal feud, but IS claimed credit. A man on a motorcycle delivered a package to a second man at a Shi'ite center. The device exploded, killing them both and wounding four others. A second bomb went off two hours later near the first bombing, wounding two policemen investigating the attack.

**May 23:** On September 16, *AP* reported that Philippine troops rescued Roman Catholic priest Teresito Soganub, 51, and a teacher who were among dozens of people taken hostage in May when hundreds of IS-linked gunmen laid siege on Marawi city. The two were freed following a five-hour battle to recapture the key Bato mosque and the nearby Islamic foundation center used as a command center by the gunmen. More than 660 gunmen and 147 troops and police were killed since the siege began in Marawi. Army commander Colonel Romeo Brawner said that troops were battling to eradicate up to 80 remaining terrorists who could be holding more than 40 hostages. Terrorist leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute were believed to still be with the gunmen in Marawi. Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said that it would take more than 50 billion pesos ($1 billion) to rebuild Marawi.

On September 18, military chief of staff General Eduardo Ano said about ten foreign militants, mostly Malaysians and Indonesians, and dozens of local terrorists were still fighting in Marawi. Abdullah Maute and two of his brothers had been killed in months of fighting, but a fourth sibling, Omarkhayam Maute, and a top Asian terror suspect, Isnilon Hapilon, remained at large.

**May 23–24:** The army raided the hideout of Abu Sayyaf commander Isnilon Hapilon, who had pledged allegiance to ISIS. The terrorists called for reinforcements. Some 100 gunmen entered Marawi in Mindanao island. The government announced a state of emergency. Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on May 24 that IS-linked terrorists overran Marawi, beheaded a police chief they had stopped at a checkpoint, burned buildings, broke into the Marawi Cathedral, seized Father Chito, a Catholic priest, his ten worshippers and three church workers, and raised the black IS flag. Defense Secretary Lorenzana said two soldiers and a police officer were killed. The Maute group was believed involved in the siege. On May 25, the government said 31 IS-linked gunmen had been killed in the fighting. The *Washington Post* reported on May 26 that it had spoken to Malabang Police Chief Romeo Enriquez and the story was disinformation. *AP* reported on May 28 that Philippine forces found the bodies of what appeared to be eight executed civilians, including four men, three women and a child, near a road close to Mindanao State University in Marawi. The death toll from six days of

fighting neared 100, including 61 terrorists, eleven soldiers and four police. On May 29, General Eduardo Ano, head of the armed forces, said three Malaysians, an Indonesian and possibly Arab extremists had been killed and the leader of the attack was wounded. The jihadis had planned to torch all of Marawi and kill Christians in nearby Iligan. The military believed it had killed Hapilon. On June 1, he said eight foreign fighters, including Chechens and Arabs, were killed.

**June 1–2:** *CNN* and *AP* reported that in a midnight casino holdup at Resorts World Manila in Newport City, suffocating smoke from a fire and an ensuing stampede killed 37 people, including 13 resort employees and 24 guests. A masked, English- and Tagalog-speaking gunman took a taxi from the San Lazaro neighborhood of Manila and arrived at midnight, ignored a guard, took an elevator with two women upstairs, donned a mask, and walked into the casino. He lit gasoline on gaming tables, shot an LED monitor, and stuffed 113 million pesos ($2.3 million) worth of casino chips in his backpack. One report said security guards wounded the gunman. The resort was put on lockdown. A guard accidentally shot himself. The thief ran into room 510 of Maxims Hotel, doused a bed with gasoline, and set himself on fire. He was found dead at 7 a.m., burned beyond recognition, next to an M4 carbine and a .380 caliber pistol. The bag of chips was found in a toilet. ISIS claimed credit, saying, "Brother Abu al-Kehir al-Arkhabili was able to immerse among a gathering of Christian fighters in the Resorts World Manila in Manila where he carried out killing and hurting until he died as a martyr. About 100 Christians were killed or wounded." A local ISIS supporter posted on a *Telegram* chat site, "The lone wolf soldiers of Khilafah attack the heart of Kufar the city of Manila in Resort World." Police said terrorism was not involved, although some media commentators pointed to the ongoing clash in Marawi between ISIS-linked jihadis and the armed forces. Philippine national police chief Oscar Albayalde said, "They can always claim whatever they want to claim. They have this reputation of claiming all atrocities all over the world to perpetuate themselves to gain global notoriety. There is no truth that the incident is a terror act." Police noted that he did not fire at individuals, a non-terrorist action. A South Korean man died of a possible heart attack suffered during the evacuation. The others died of smoke inhalation. None of the bodies had gunshot wounds. More than 70 people suffered injuries while escaping. On June 4, the attacker was identified as Jessie Carlos, a married father of three and former Finance Department employee who had an $80,000 debt from his gambling addiction.

**June 9:** Thirteen marines died and 40 were wounded in ongoing fighting with Maute and Abu Sayyaf terrorists in Marawi. Authorities captured Ominta Romato Maute, alias Farhana, mother of two key insurgent leaders, and two wounded men and several women allegedly with assault rifles and other weapons in Masiu in Lanao del Sur Province. Her husband, Cayamora, was arrested at a police checkpoint in Davao on June 6. The two were held on suspicion of providing financial and other support to their children who were involved in the fighting in Marawi.

**June 20:** Up to 300 Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters gunmen took several hostages in a grade school in Malagakit village in North Cotabato Province in the southern Philippines. Rebel spokesman Abu Misry Mamah told a radio station that his group grabbed some villagers to protect them during the gun battle.

During the ongoing battle for Marawi, 258 gunmen, 65 soldiers and police and 26 civilians were killed and more than 300,000 villagers had fled the area, where more than 100 gunmen had taken several hostages.

**June 23:** The military said Mahmud bin Ahmad, a Malaysian who helped lead and finance via more than $600,000 in ISIS funds during the month-long siege on Marawi, was believed killed in the fighting on June 7. The money was used for firearms, food, and supplies. Local terrorist leader Omarkhayam Maute was also believed to have been killed in the early days of the fighting. Maute's brother, Abdullah, was still fighting in Marawi.

Ahmad, a former Malaysian university professor, received training in Afghanistan. He appeared in a video showing terrorist leaders planning the Marawi siege in a hideout. Troops found the video on May 23.

**July 12:** Authorities battled 40 New People's Army gunmen in Compostela Valley Province. Eight terrorists and a soldier died in the fighting. Authorities seized six high-powered guns.

**July 16:** Abu Sayyaf was suspected when 20 gunmen abducted six painters and carpenters in a grade school compound in Patikul in Sulu Province shortly after midnight. One hostage escaped and alerted police. Army troops rescued a second.

**August 18–19:** *AFP* reported that during an ongoing battle between the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and its offshoot, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), six MILF members died in the marshy farmlands around Datu Salibo on Mindanao island.

**August 20:** Philippine soldiers killed three Abu Sayyaf terrorists and wounded five others in a clash near Akbar in Basilan, recovering nine bombs and bomb materials.

**August 21:** At dawn, twenty Abu Sayyaf gunmen fired on villagers and burned five houses and a village

hall in Tubigan village in Maluso town on Basilan island, killing nine people, including villagers and a militiaman, and injuring 16 during two hours of fighting.

**September 18:** New People's Army gunmen kidnapped a government militiaman while he was having dinner in his house in Occidental Mindoro Province.

**September 20:** Soldiers killed nine New People's Army gunmen in a two-hour clash that wounded a soldier in Carranglan in Nueva Ecija Province. Rebels kidnapped a government militiaman.

**October 11:** Soldiers recovered 22 bodies of suspected jihadis, including a "foreign-looking" man, eight rifles, and dozens of bombs from two buildings, which were retaken in one of the final government assaults to end the Maute of Marawi.

**October 16:** Police and military officials announced that two senior terrorism suspects, Omarkhayam Maute and Isnilon Hapilon, were killed in the battle for Marawi city. Authorities were still searching for senior Malaysian jihadi Mahmud bin Ahmad, alias Abu Handzalah, a close associate of Hapilon.

The U.S. Department of State had offered a $5 million reward for Hapilon, who was behind ransom kidnappings of several Americans, one of whom was beheaded in 2001 in southern Basilan province. He had been indicted in Washington, D.C., for involvement in terrorist acts against Americans and other foreigners.

Troops rescued 17 hostages, including an infant and women, during the gun battle.

**October 18:** Philippine Department of Justice authorities charged Filipina Karen Aizha Hamidon, the widow of Mohammad Jaafar Maguid, leader of Ansar Khalifa Philippines, who was killed by police in January 2017 in Sarangani Province, with 14 counts of inciting to rebellion by recruiting foreign fighters and spreading extremist propaganda related to the siege of Marawi. She was arrested on October 11. Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said, "She gained international notoriety in the middle of 2016 when she successfully recruited several Indian nationals to come to the Philippines and join the radical Islamic extremist groups in Mindanao." On October 11, she allegedly posted a message on *Telegram* inviting Muslims to join ISIS-linked fighters in Marawi. The National Bureau of Investigation said forensic examinations on her cellphone showed 296 posts of the same message. The NBI said Hamidon was also the ex-wife of a Singaporean, Muhammad Shamin Mohammed Sidek, detained there for alleged ties to ISIS. The agency she was also being investigated in other countries for possible links to international terrorist financing.

**October 23:** Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana declared the end to the Maute siege of Marawi that began on May 23, lasted five months and killed 1,131 people, including 919 militants and 165 soldiers and police, and displaced hundreds of thousands of Marawi residents. At least 1,780 of the hostages seized by the militants, including a Roman Catholic priest, were rescued. The final 20 captives were freed over the weekend. Among the foreign gunmen believed to be in Marawi were Malaysian Amin Baco and an Indonesian, Qayyim. Both had plotted attacks and provided combat training to local militants for years.

**October 30:** Police spokesman Setyo Warsito said the counterterrorism squad fatally shot Muhammad Amir and another man, Yaman, in Bima, a hilly district in East Nusa Tenggara Province. Authorities arrested nine others in raids in the same area on November 1. The eleven were believed to have been involved in the shooting of two law enforcement officers who had taken their children to school. Amir was believed to have shot and wounded a policeman on September 11 outside a school in Bima where he had dropped off his child, and that Yaman allegedly drove the motorbike on which Amir was riding. One of the arrested men was believed to have wounded another police officer who had taken his child to another school. The men belonged to Jemaah Anshorut Tauhid, a splinter cell of Jemaah Islamiyah. Police seized two handmade guns and ammunition.

**November 5:** Military officials announced that troops killed eleven remaining IS-linked "stragglers" in Marawi and were attempting to determine whether Amin Baco, alias Abu Jihad, a Malaysian who may have taken over the militants' leadership, was still alive. More than 900 gunmen, 165 troops and policemen and 47 civilians were killed in the fighting in Marawi over five months. The military said Baco provided combat and bomb-making training to allied groups in different areas. In recent years he joined a group led by Filipino terrorist leader Isnilon Hapilon.

Philippine authorities arrested Omarkhayam Maute's Indonesian wife, Minhati Madrais, 36, who was with her six children—four girls and two boys—in a village in Iligan city, less than an hour from Marawi. Authorities seized bomb-making materials, including detonators, in the house. Her Indonesian passport had expired. Madrais hailed from Bekasi in West Java east of Jakarta, and came to the Philippines in 2015.

The previous week, Marawi village guards captured an Indonesian militant, Muhammad Ilham Syahputra, who authorities said told them that a few dozen more gunmen remained hiding in damaged buildings and were trying escape from Marawi.

**November 10:** On November 17, *AFP* reported that Philippine police arrested three Abu Sayyaf members who were planning to bomb a Manila shopping mall

as U.S. President Donald Trump and other world leaders arrived in the city for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit and other meetings. Authorities seized pistols and grenades. Police asked prosecutors to file charges against the three for having unlicensed handguns. The suspects included two 19-year-olds and a 24-year-old. They came from Basilan island and were living in a northern Manila slum, largely populated by Muslim migrants.

## Singapore

**June 12:** Police announced the arrest under the Internal Security Act earlier in the month of Syaikhah Izzah Zahrah al-Ansari, 22, a female Singaporean preschool assistant who shared pro–ISIS materials online and intended to travel to Syria with her young child to join ISIS. Authorities said she was radicalized online in 2013. She worked at PCF Sparkletots, a chain of government preschools. The Home Affairs Ministry said "She also said that she was prepared to undergo military training and engage in armed combat to defend ISIS, if called upon by the terrorist group to do so." She wanted to find a Salafi or Islamic State group supporter "to marry and settle down with," according to the Ministry. Her parents were freelance Koranic teachers. They and her sister were aware of her plans and tried to stop her. The ministry said after she was put under investigation, a family member tried to destroy evidence to "try to minimize her acts." *Reuters* noted that the Ministry said, "She said she would support her husband if he fought for ISIS in Syria as she believed she would reap 'heavenly rewards' if he died in battle. With her 'elevated status' as a 'martyr's widow,' she felt she could easily marry another ISIS fighter in Syria."

**June 20:** *AP* and *AFP* reported that authorities announced the arrest earlier in June of AETOS auxiliary police officer Muhammad Khairul bin Mohamed, 24, and a colleague under the Internal Security Act for planning to join the Free Syrian Army battle against Syria's government. The government said he was "radicalized and had the intention to undertake armed violence in Syria." His colleague, Mohamad Rizal bin Wahid, 36, was arrested in June but was released under a restriction order that forbade him from moving to a new address or traveling without approval. The government said he "did not share Khairul's desire to participate in armed violence," but had been aware of his plans since 2015 and did not alert authorities, and "even suggested to Khairul various ways to get to Syria and to die there as a 'martyr.'" The private security firm AETOS provides security guards to companies and auxiliary police to the Singapore Police Force. Khairul was a traffic officer at Woodlands Checkpoint, which separates Singapore from Malaysia, and did not carry a weapon.

**September 24:** The *Straits Times* reported that the al-Hayat Media Center of ISIS posted a three-minute thirty-second recruitment video of a fighter from Singapore, Megat Shahdan Abdul Samad, alias Abu Uqayl from Singapore, 39, who left Singapore in 2014 to work in the Middle East, where he was believed to have been radicalized, then joined ISIS in Syria. The video showed three ISIS terrorists, including Samad, loading artillery rounds onto a truck in what was believed to be ISIS-held territory. He also addressed Britain's Prince Harry, who visited Singapore in June, "To Harry, you come to Singapore and tell such stories to gain sympathy for the London terror attacks? Why don't you come here and fight us if you are man enough? So we can send you and your Apaches to hell fire."

Other Singaporeans to join ISIS included Haja Fakkurudeen Usman Ali, a manager in a Singapore supermarket, who was 37 when he took his wife and three young children in early 2014 to Syria; and an unnamed Singaporean woman living in Malaysia who was 47 when she went to Syria with her 37-year-old Malaysian husband, and her son and daughter from a previous marriage.

**December 4:** The *Singapore Times* and detik.com reported that Internet chat groups were claiming that Jemaah Ansharut Daulah terrorist planner Muhammad Bahrun Naim was killed on November 30 while fighting for ISIS in Syria. Detik reported that Bahrun's family lawyer, Anis Prijo Anshari, claimed he had received word about the death. The *Straits Times* reported that Naim was the handler of Gigih Rahmat Dewa, leader of a small terror cell in Batam called Katibah Gonggong Rebus. Dewa and others were jailed for planning to fire a rocket at Singapore's Marina Bay from Batam in August 2016.

## South Korea

**June 13:** South Korean police arrested a mechanical engineering graduate student, 25, for placing a concealed explosive device that injured a professor of mechanical engineering at Yonsei University in Seoul. An official from Seoul's Seodaemun district police station said the suspect confessed. The professor sustained burns to his hands and neck. The device included explosive powder, four batteries and dozens of bolts that were packed inside a vacuum bottle. The professor found the bottle in a box that was inside a shopping bag hung on his office door. It exploded when he opened it, but did not disperse the bolts.

## Sri Lanka

**February 27:** Gunmen fired on a bus transporting prisoners to a court in Kalutara, killing seven people, including five inmates, among them a suspected gang leader, and two prison guards, and hospitalizing two other inmates. The gunmen escaped.

# Taiwan

**August 18:** A man named Lu, 51, swinging a samurai sword and carrying a Chinese flag in his bag, injured a military guard, Chu, in his neck outside the Taipei office of President Tsai Ing-wen. Authorities said it was a politically motivated attack. The official *Central News Agency* reported that Lu stole the sword from the nearby Armed Forces Museum by smashing a glass display case with a hammer.

# Thailand

**February 10:** Three gunmen in a truck blocked an intersection and shot to death Sama-ae Doloh, a subdistrict chief in Pattani Province, who was driving his pickup truck to work. Police gathered bullet casings from AK-47 and M-16 assault rifles.

Five masked gunmen shot to death a store owner and a bystander at a rubber trading store in neighboring Narathiwat Province, then escaped.

**March 2:** Gunmen shot to death three soldiers at a busy Narathiwat Province market during the evening. Gunmen also killed an 8-year-old boy, his parents, and an aunt as they were driving to school in the province.

**March 3:** Gunmen wounded two paramilitary volunteers in Narathiwat Province as they parked their motorcycles by the roadside.

**March 18–20:** Police investigating a plot to assassinate Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha and Defense Minister Prawit Wongsuwan found more than a dozen guns, 6,000 bullets, knives, drugs, grenades and other contraband belonging to Wuthipong Kochathamakun, who was part of the violent antigovernment protests in 2010 that paralyzed Bangkok for three months and killed around 90 civilians and six soldiers. Police searched through more than 2,000 shipping containers where they believed more weapons were kept. Police found red fabric banners with Wuthipong's nickname Ko Tee printed on them. He was seeking political asylum in Laos. Authorities arrested nine men.

**March 29:** Two gunmen died in a gun battle at a police checkpoint when occupants of a pickup truck tried to escape and its passengers fired at officers. The duo was suspected of an early March attack that killed four people.

**March 30:** The body of army ranger Saifru Hasimae was found in Yala Province. The murderer's motive was unknown.

Five gunmen fired at a police station in Narathiwat Province, killing a policeman and wounding three others. Police Colonel Surapong Chatsuth said the attack might have been retaliation for the previous day's clash.

**April 3:** Gunmen armed with M-79 grenade launchers and other heavy weapons fired on a police checkpoint in Yala Province shortly before dawn, injuring six officers. Jihadis were suspected. Later in the week, three follow-up attacks killed an army ranger and a policeman.

**April 7:** Suspected jihadis exploded dozens of bombs in Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, and Songkhla Provinces in southern Thailand, bringing down power lines, damaging 52 electric poles and setting tires on fire to block roads. No casualties were reported.

**April 19:** Thirteen nighttime grenade and bomb attacks on police stations and checkpoints in twelve districts in Muslim-majority provinces in Thailand's deep south killed two suspected insurgents whose explosives detonated unexpectedly and wounded eight civilians and officials. No one claimed credit.

**April 27:** Jihadis were suspected of killing four paramilitary army rangers and injuring two others in an ambush on a pickup truck carrying six rangers in Narathiwat Province. The truck was blown off the road by a bomb. The gunmen then opened fire.

**May 9:** Insurgents were suspected when a small bomb went off outside a Big C grocery and retail shopping mall in Pattani. A second bomb in a pick-up truck at the shopping center's entrance caught first responders, hospitalizing 52 people.

**May 15:** A small bomb exploded near the National Theater in Bangkok's old quarter, wounding two people.

**May 22:** *Reuters* reported that a bomb hidden in a container at the entrance of a pharmacy at Bangkok's army-run Phramongkutklao Hospital wounded 24 people. Investigators found remnants of batteries and wires at the scene of the blast on the ground floor. *AP* reported on June 15 that Deputy Prime Minister/Defense Ministry Prawit Wongsuwan announced the morning arrest of a retired male electrical engineer, 61 or 62, who had confessed to the bombing. Security camera video led to his identification. A raid on his home found four pipe bombs and bomb-making materials. On June 20, Wattana Pumret said that he had conducted an act of resistance against Thailand's ruling military junta. "I do not hate the army, I love the army. But I hate some soldiers who use the people as a stepping-stone to gain power and become prime minister and the government…. I had no intention of causing any harm. I want to deeply apologize for the actions that caused injuries both severe and minor. I really want to apologize…. I am just a citizen who disagrees with governments that come from coups. Each time there is a coup, it is a massive loss to the country in terms of the economy as well as for the people's rights and liberties, which are stripped away…. I only wanted to send a message to the coup government that the grassroots citizens do not admire governments that come from coups."

Police charged him for four nonlethal bombings starting in 2007 for which Wattana took responsibility and for unauthorized possession of weapons and explosives. He said that each bomb cost him 50 baht ($1.47) to make.

A bomb exploded in Yala Province, wounding military officers.

**May 23:** Gunmen remotely detonated a bomb and shot to death at close range two army rangers who were patrolling a community village on motorcycles in Yala Province.

Terrorists remotely detonated a bomb under a car of a soldier on patrol in Narathiwat Province, causing no injuries.

**June 16:** Jihadi separatists were suspected when four gunmen on motorbikes killed a policeman outside a police station in Narathiwat.

**June 17:** Jihadi separatists were suspected when two gunmen on motorbikes shot to death two teens in Pattani Province.

**June 19:** A bomb planted in a dirt road in Pattani Province hit a military truck, killed six soldiers and wounded four soldiers. Muslim separatists were suspected.

**July 10:** Six or seven gunmen wearing what appeared to be official uniforms entered the home of Worayuth Sanglhung, a village headman in Ao Luek District in Krabi Province and killed eight members of his family, including three girls under 15 years of age, with the youngest age eight, by shooting them in the head. Three other people were seriously injured. The local police chief suggested that the evening killings involved a dispute over land or political issues. Police spokesman Krissana Pattanacharoen said the gunmen held the 11 residents captive until around midnight, when they shot them in the head before escaping. Worayuth was among the dead.

**September 22:** A roadside bomb exploded under a police pickup truck on patrol from the Sai Buri district police station in Pattani Province, killing four army rangers and wounding five other rangers and a civilian motorist passing by.

# Vietnam

**April:** *AP* reported on December 27 that a court in Ho Chi Minh City convicted 14 people for terrorism aimed at opposing the people's administration for a petrol bomb attack at the city's international airport in April and sentenced them to between five and 16 years in prison. The state-run *Thanh Nien* newspaper reported that Dang Hoang Thien, who was accused of making two petrol bombs, only one of which exploded, was given 16 years. The 13 others received from five to 14 years in prison. The bomb caused no casualties. It was blamed on an exiled group of the defeated U.S-backed South Vietnamese republic.

A court in Binh Dinh Province sentenced nine people to between three and 14 years for attempted subversion and spreading propaganda against the regime by printing and distributing leaflets in a village in February, defaming the country's leaders and instigating people to overthrow the government.

# Australia

**January 10:** David Hicks, 41, appeared in the Elizabeth Magistrates Court in his home town of Adelaide for a pre-trial conference on charges of assaulting his partner in September. He was granted bail. The next hearing was scheduled for February 28, 2017. He faced a two-year sentence.

He was the first Guantanamo Bay prisoner to be convicted by a military court; he spent more than five years there, after having been captured in Afghanistan by the Northern Alliance in 2001 as a suspected enemy combatant. He traveled to Pakistan in 2000, joined Lashkar-e-Taiba, and attack Indian forces. He pleaded guilty in a U.S. Court of Military Commission in 2007 to providing material support to terrorism. All but nine months of his seven-year sentence was suspended and he was allowed to return to Adelaide to serve the final months. In 2009, he married human rights activist Aloysia Brooks, but the couple separated. The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review appeals court reversed his conviction in 2015.

**January 20:** At 2 p.m., a man, 26, with a history of mental health and drug abuse issues crashed into pedestrians on the Bourke Street Mall, a pedestrian-only road in downtown Melbourne, then continued onto a sidewalk, killing at least four people, including a child, and injuring 20 others, five critically, including an infant who later died. Victims included a 2-year-old, 9-year-old and a 12-year-old. Police shot and arrested the driver. Police Chief Commissioner Graham Ashton said the incident was not terrorism. The individual had an extensive record of domestic violence and was arrested the previous weekend for assaulting members of his family. He was involved in a domestic stabbing incident in Windsor the morning of the incident, took a hostage, and sped off in a maroon red car. She escaped on Bolte Bridge. Two adults and a child were killed; a fourth person died in a hospital.

**February 28:** Australian Federal Police, following an 18-month investigation, arrested Australian-born citizen Haisem Zahab, 42, at his home in rural Young, New South Wales, who was planning to advise ISIS on how to develop missiles. The male electrician was accused of researching and designing a laser warning device that could alert ISIS to incoming guided weapons used by coalition forces in Syria and Iraq, and of researching, designing and modeling systems to assist ISIS efforts to develop their own long-range guided missiles. Charges included two that relate to supporting extremist groups overseas. He faced life in prison. He did not apply for bail. He his court appearance was set for March 8.

**March 24:** A Sydney teen pleaded guilty in Parramatta Children's Court to one count of planning a terrorist attack on an Australian Veteran's Day ceremony on April 25, 2016, when he was 16 years old. He faced life in prison.

**April 30:** Uber suspended a driver who allegedly told a female passenger heading home from downtown Canberra that he was from Pakistan and led an organization related to ISIS and planned to blow up Parliament House and a Canberra shopping mall. He asked the passenger if she had "ever eaten human flesh." He said he was not taking her to her suburban Canberra home but to the town of Cooma. She said she told the driver to pull over at a gas station so she could use the toilet, and called the police emergency number. Two police cars arrived ten minutes later.

**June 5:** Victoria State Police Deputy Commissioner Andrew Crisp said police were called to an apartment building in Melbourne's Brighton suburb in response to reports of an explosion and found a man's body in the lobby. He said police tried to negotiate with a gunman in an apartment. A shoot-out began in which two men died, three police officers were wounded and a female hostage was freed. The gunman left the building and shot three officers before police killed him. Police suggested the incident might be related to Islamic extremism. The *Seven Network* television received a phone call from a woman who said she was a hostage. *Seven* news director Simon Pristel said, "We asked her more information, at that point a man came on the

same line and said 'This is for IS, this is for al-Qaeda.' We asked for more information and that's when he hung up." Police said the gunman was Yacqub Khayre, 29, a Somali-born refugee who was one of two men acquitted by a jury in 2010 of planning a suicide attack against a Sydney army base in 2009. Three people were convicted of conspiracy in the plot. He was freed on parole in November 2016 after serving sentences for arson and violent crimes. Khayre had booked an appointment with an escort in the apartment, but showed up with a shotgun, which he used to kill a Chinese-born Australian man employed by the escort agency in the lobby. ISIS claimed credit. 17060501

*Reuters* reported on June 12 that a 25-year-old man had been arrested and charged with supplying a firearm Khayre used in the siege. He faced four charges, including possessing a firearm unlawfully and committing an offense while on bail. He was scheduled to appear in court on June 14.

**June 15:** New South Wales Police Deputy Commissioner Dave Hudson announced the arrest of Australian citizen Moudasser Taleb, 22, who took a taxi to Sydney Airport to buy a ticket to Turkey or Lebanon. He had been under surveillance for five months on suspicion of planning to fly to Syria to fight with ISIS. Taleb was carrying military-style clothing when he was arrested. He was charged with preparing for an incursion into a foreign country to carry out violent acts and faced a possible life sentence. Police believed he acted alone and was self-radicalized. A court date was set for June 16.

**July 29:** *Fairfax Media, News Corporation* and the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation* reported that the Australian Federal Police, the New South Wales state police and the Australian Security Intelligence Organization raided several suburban Sydney properties and arrested four men on suspicion of plotting to bomb aircraft. *Seven Network* television reported that 40 riot squad officers raided a Sydney house, where an explosives team found a suspicious device. Deakin University security expert Greg Barton said the plotters were apparently making a peroxide-based explosive device similar to triacetone triperoxide (TATP) rather than nitrate-based chemicals that can be detected by airport security swab tests. Australian Federal Police Commissioner Andrew Colvin suggested that the plot was jihadi-inspired.

On August 3 Khaled Khayat, 49, and Mahmoud Khayat, 32, were each charged with two counts of "preparing for, or planning, a terrorist attack" in connection with an alleged plot to bring down an airplane. The duo was arrested with two others when police raided properties in the Sydney suburbs of Lakemba, Punchbowl, Surry Hills, Wiley Park and Bankstown. A third man in custody was not yet charged. The fourth man was released without charge on August 1. *BBC* reported that one suspect tried to plant the bomb on a plane via his unwitting brother. The suspects were allegedly aided by ISIS.

*BBC* reported that two plots were involved—one to bomb a plane, a second to set off a device that could release toxic gas in a public enclosed space. Australian Federal Police Deputy Commissioner Michael Phelan said that two suspects had built and concealed a "high-end" military-grade explosive with parts sent from Turkey via air cargo, which was arranged by a senior ISIS operative with whom a suspect had been in contact since April 2017. *AP* reported that Khaled Khayat brought the device to Sydney airport in a piece of luggage he gave to his brother, who would board an Etihad Airways plane leaving Sydney Airport on July 15. The brother apparently did not take the bag, and Khayat left the airport with the luggage.

Police said that the second plot involved creating an improvised chemical device designed to release hydrogen sulfide ("rotten egg gas"). Police recovered components and chemicals.

The defendants did not apply for bail during a brief hearing. The next hearing was scheduled for November 14. They faced life in prison.

Intelligence tipped off police on July 26. The defendants were arrested on July 29.

The defendants were represented by attorney Michael Coroneos.

On August 6, Khaled Merhi, 39, was charged with possession of a prohibited weapon and granted bail. He was scheduled to appear in court on August 24.

*AP* reported on August 21 that Lebanese Interior Minister Nouhad Machnouk claimed that Lebanese police intelligence played a major role in foiling the plot to blow up the plane with bombs hidden inside a large Barbie doll and a meat grinder. One of the four Lebanese-Australian brothers was in detention in Lebanon. Machnouk said the bombs did not make it onto the plane because the luggage was seven kilograms (15.4 pounds) above the weight permitted by the airline. Machnouk said Tarek Khayyat is a senior ISIS member in Raqqa. The fourth brother, Amer, was arrested in Lebanon after he arrived in mid–July from Australia.

**August 25:** At 9 a.m., Alex Ophel, 18, stood up from his seat at an Australian National University statistics classroom and attacked his teacher and three students with a baseball bat. The next day, a Canberra court ordered him to undergo a mental health assessment. Ophel was charged in the Australian Capital Territory Magistrates Court with several violent offenses, including intentionally inflicting grievous bodily harm, which carries a potential maximum of 20 years in prison, and assault occasioning actual bodily harm, which carries a maximum five-year sentence.

**November 28:** *AFP* reported that police raided a house in Werribee, a Melbourne suburb, and arrested a man, 20, regarding an alleged plot to carry out a terrorist attack in Melbourne on New Year's Eve.

**December 21:** At 4:41 p.m., Saeed Noori, 32, an Australian man of Afghan descent with a history of mental illness and drug use rammed his white Suzuki SUV into pedestrians in front of a train station on Flinders Street in Melbourne, hospitalizing 19 people, four of them with critical injuries, one a 4-year-old preschooler, another an 83-year-old man from Melbourne. Nine of those injured were foreign nationals, including from South Korea, China, Italy, India, Venezuela, Ireland and New Zealand. Police deemed it a "deliberate act." Shane Patton, acting police commissioner of Victoria State, said, "We don't have any intelligence or evidence to indicate there is a connection to terrorism. Having said that, we continue to support this investigation with the Counter Terrorism Command to ensure there isn't that connection and there is no ongoing threat." Noori had no known links to any extremist groups, and was not on the intelligence agencies' list of potential terrorist suspects. Police arrested a second man, 24, who recorded the incident on his cell phone after authorities found three knives in a bag he was carrying. Police said the men did not appear to be linked. He was expected to be charged with drugs and weapons possession. An off-duty police sergeant held the driver until police arrived, sustaining injuries in the struggle. Police said the man was known to them for traffic offenses and a minor assault in 2010. The *Washington Post* reported on December 22 that he made rambling references to God, the mistreatment of Muslims and Australia's domestic security service after he was arrested. In the hospital, he talked about dreams and hearing voices. Noori entered Australia in 2004 as a refugee and became an Australian citizen two years later. On January 2, 2018, Noori was charged with murder after an 83-year-old man died. Noori earlier was charged with 18 counts of attempted murder and one count of conduct endangering life. The attempted murder charge was upgraded in the Melbourne Magistrates Court to murder. Murder carries a potential life sentence; attempted murder carries a 25-year sentence. Noori was denied bail.

# Europe

**May 2:** *CNN* reported that the U.S. Department of State issued a travel alert for its citizens going to Europe, noting, "While local governments continue counterterrorism operations, the Department nevertheless remains concerned about the potential for future terrorist attacks. U.S. citizens should always be alert to the possibility that terrorist sympathizers or self-radicalized extremists may conduct attacks with little or no warning."

## Albania

**January 18:** Police arrested a female substitute teacher for making statements supportive of ISIS. *TVKlan* broadcast footage of her telling her young students at a Muslim school in Shkodra that ISIS "are good people but the state wants to fight them." She deemed ISIS "a Muslim organization protecting Syria's Muslim population, or that of Palestine, or that of Egypt."

**May 4:** The Serious Crime Court sentenced in absentia former Muslim imam Almir Daci of Leshnice village, Pogradec district, who was accused of terrorism charges including recruiting and sending 25 men to fight with rebel groups in Syria, to 15 years in prison. He was believed to be fighting with rebels in Syria.

## Austria

**January 20:** Police spokesman Thomas Keiblinger told the *Austria Press Agency* that in the afternoon, a Vienna SWAT team, acting on a tip from a foreign intelligence service that Albanian Islamic extremists were planning an attack in Vienna between January 15–30, arrested an Albanian man in an apartment. *Kronen Zeitung* reported that he had entered the country that day. *AP* added on January 23 that police said he might have been planning a bomb attack. A 14-year-old was among those questioned. The arrested suspect, 17, said he supported ISIS. Germany arrested another suspect, 21, believed in contact with the Albanian.

**January 26:** In early-morning raids, mobilized heavily armed SWAT teams and 800 officers supporting them in Vienna and Graz arrested 14 suspected ISIS terrorists, including three women, and three Austrians with foreign roots, two Bosnians, two Macedonians and a Syrian.

**February 27:** A court in Feldkirch convicted a Chechen refugee, 25, of membership in a terrorist organization and training for terrorist purposes and sentenced him to a 30-month prison term. He was accused of fighting against Syrian government troops for an ISIS splinter between October 2013 and March 2015. He claimed he fought for the Free Syrian Army.

**March 6:** Anti-terror official Roland Scherscher said police SWAT teams in St. Poelten, west of Vienna, conducted several raids and detained five people, all around 20, suspected of radical Islamic sentiments or activities.

**March 27:** A court in Linz convicted an Austrian man of "participation in a terrorist organization" for spreading ISIS propaganda including videos of radical Islamic preachers and beheadings prepared by ISIS, and sentenced him to an 18-month prison sentence, three months of which were suspended. He hung an ISIS flag from his balcony several years earlier.

**April 20:** Police arrested 26 members of the State Union of Austria sovereign citizens movement on suspicion of planning to take people hostage and put them on self-styled "trial," participation in a subversive organization, resisting the authority of the state, coercion, blackmail and uttering threats. The group does not recognize the legality or authority of the Austrian Republic. The arrests followed threats against local politicians, judges and bank employees.

**April 25:** Police searched several Vienna houses and arrested two people on suspicion of belonging to a terror organization. Austrian media claimed they were a man and a woman from Syria.

**July 6:** Interior Minister Wolfgang Sobotka said a Tunisian man, 54, accused of killing an elderly couple,

85 and 87, the previous week was a radicalized Muslim with ISIS ties. Police cited evidence on his computer and social network activities and said he believed his victims were supporters of the far-right Freedom Party, which articulates a strong anti-migrant and anti–Muslim message.

**July 24:** A six-member Austrian jury convicted a Palestinian man, 27, for using social media to incite terrorists to kill Jews in Jerusalem and for belonging to a terrorist organization due to his affiliation with Hamas militants. He was sentenced to life in prison. He had served a nine-year prison sentence in Israel for acts against the Jewish state. Defense lawyers appealed.

**July 25:** Police reported that one of two suspects turned himself in after photos of him were published. Passengers said he and a colleague allegedly discussed setting off a bomb in an Arabic conversation on a Vienna subway the previous week. He denied any talk of a bomb. One allegedly said he had set "the bomb at five minutes."

**October 13:** A panel of judges in Korneuburg west of Vienna sentenced a man to two years in prison after finding him guilty of attempting to go to Syria to fight with Islamic extremists. He was detained at Vienna's airport with a fake passport earlier in 2017. He claimed that he was on his way to Turkey to meet and marry his fiancée. The court said there was no evidence that she existed. He appealed his conviction on charges of belonging to a terrorist organization and making and possessing false documents.

# Belgium

**January 14:** Police detained three people in four raids in the Brussels suburb of Molenbeek but did not find weapons or explosives. The trio was released that evening.

**January 25:** Police detained seven people in eight dawn anti-terror raids in the Brussels area as part of an investigation into the possible return of fighters from Syria.

**February 8:** During nine nighttime anti-terrorist raids, police in Brussels detained eleven people as part of an investigation into the possible return of fighters from Syria.

**February 23:** The royal prosecutor's office arrested and charged H.G., a man born in 1998, with being "the author or co-author of false information about a terrorist attack" in a string of hoax bomb calls that led to major security alerts and the evacuation of key buildings, including the main Brussels justice facilities, a railway station, a station in Charleroi and an airport in Gosselies. Police tracked down H.G. via his *Facebook* account. Hoax callers face two years in jail.

**March 2:** Authorities in Brussels detained M.A., who was driving a speeding car through red lights with two gas canisters in his trunk. Prosecutor's spokeswoman Ine Van Wymersch said "the driver was known by judicial authorities and it was unclear why the gas canisters were there." Saint Gilles Mayor Charles Picque said the driver was "a radicalized person, so it was normal to take precautionary measures." He was released on March 3, although he had been previously convicted on terror-related charges. Local media said he had sought to fight in Syria.

**March 7:** Police arrested Molly B., 24, during the night on suspicion of helping people who planned to launch an attack in Europe. She was charged with taking part in the activities of a terrorist organization.

**March 9:** Authorities detained two people during raids in the Brussels suburb of Anderlecht and the city of Ghent in connection with a terror financing probe. Both were released after questioning. No arms or explosives were found.

**March 23:** Authorities were placed on high alert after a driver tried to enter a pedestrian zone in Antwerp with a car carrying weapons including a shotgun, a long knife, and a container of an unknown liquid in the trunk. The car had French license plates. People jumped out of the way as he sped through the busy Meir shopping center. Federal prosecutor Eric Van der Sijpt said the suspect was French-Tunisian citizen Mohamed R., 39, who was charged with "attempted murder in a terror context" and gun offenses. *AP* reported on April 7 that Belgian authorities dropped terror charges against Mohamed R. He was remanded in custody for a month over gun offenses. No one was injured. 17032301

**June 20:** Belgian media reported that two minor explosions went off on a baggage trolley at the Brussels Central (train) Station at 8:39 p.m., causing a small fire. The city's main square was evacuated. *Reuters* reported that soldiers shot and "neutralized" a person yelling "Allahu Akbar!" who rushed them. Police reported that no other explosives were found on his body. No other casualties were reported. Police raided the suspect's home in Molenbeek and found "chemicals and material that can be used to make explosives." A federal magistrate said the Moroccan suspect, O.Z., 36, was not known to authorities for terror activities. Prosecutors said the suspect's bag at the Brussels station contained gas canisters and nails. The federal prosecutor's office said the attacker was an ISIS sympathizer. On June 22, police detained four suspects in searches in Molenbeek, Anderlecht and Koekelberg. 17062001

**July 5:** Authorities conducted six anti-terror raids in Brussels, detained four people, and seized from a

garage "three Kalashnikovs, about fifteen Kalashnikov magazines, a riot gun, three small firearms with ammunition," police uniforms and detonators. Belgian media said the raids centered on the Kamikaze Riders biker group. The federal prosecutor's office charged two men with "taking part in the activities of a terrorist group."

**August 8:** After a high-speed chase, Brussels police shot at the wheels of a car in Molenbeek, where the driver told officers that explosives were inside the German-registered vehicle. The vehicle was involved in two collisions after running a red light and sparking the chase. Brussels prosecutor's spokeswoman Ine Van Wymersch said, "When they got the person out, he immediately claimed that there were explosives inside." He was alone and no one was injured. *Reuters* reported that the bomb squad found no explosives.

**August 25:** *NBC News* reported that soldiers shot to death a Belgian man of Somali descent who yelled "Allahu akbar" and attacked troops with a knife in Brussels, slightly injuring one soldier in the hand and another in the face in the nighttime attack. The man was carrying a fake firearm and two copies of the Koran. He was around 30 years old and lived in Bruges. Police said he had no known terrorist affiliation but had a record for assault charges. Belgian prosecutors opened an "attempted terrorist murder" investigation. *NBC News* reported on August 26 that ISIS took credit. *AP* reported on August 31 that the Federal Prosecutor's Office said a court in Liege would keep Belgian citizen Hajar A., 22, in custody for a month. The court had issued an arrest warrant for him on August 25. He was charged with "having left national territory with a view to committing, in Belgium or abroad, a terrorist offence."

**September 27:** Spanish police announced that Belgium arrested a 26-year-old Spaniard of Moroccan origin in Zaventem on suspicion of leading a five-member Belgian-based cell that worked to recruit and indoctrinate members for ISIS, serving as its chief provider of propaganda material and using his house and cafes for meetings. The group started in 2014. Three members, including the detainee's brother, were arrested by Spanish police over the past two years; another was arrested in Morocco. Police said the Spaniard maintained contact with ISIS combatants and tried twice to travel to conflict zones. He then concentrated the group's efforts in locating targets for attacks in Belgium.

**October 10:** The Belgian government halted $3.9 million in funding for two school construction projects in the Palestinian territories after learning that a school in the south of Hebron it backed was renamed in 2013 Dalal Mughrabi Elementary School, after a woman it considers a terrorist. Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders said that Mughrabi was "a Palestinian terrorist" who led a 1978 attack against Israel which killed 38, including 13 children. His office announced, "Belgium will not allow itself to be associated with the names of terrorists in any way."

# Bosnia-Herzegovina

**August 30:** Authorities searched a house and detained an unnamed individual in the wider Sarajevo area on suspicion of affiliation with jihadis and terrorism. The state prosecutor's office said the operation aimed to "find weapons, ammunition and explosives and bring in some people for questioning." The premises were believed to be linked to a man "who had been deported to Bosnia from Austria."

**October 31:** Bosnian authorities extradited to the U.S. Mirsad Kandic, an alleged ISIS supporter from Kosovo sought for years by the U.S. for suspected terrorism links. The prosecutor's office said a "complex operation" to locate the suspect and hand him over to the U.S. was kept secret for three months. The *Zurnal* online news portal said he was arrested in Sarajevo in July 2017 and that he used several other names and different passports to travel. He reportedly spent time in Raqqa, Syria, and helped Australian teenage suicide bomber Jake Bilardi, also known as Jihadi Jake, reach the ISIS-held territory in 2014. Bilardi, 18, died in a suicide bomb attack west of Baghdad in March 2015. *Zurnal* said that Kandic was suspected of supplying ISIS with suicide vests and weapons.

# Bulgaria

**March 17:** A court suspended for three weeks the trial of dual Australian-Bulgarian citizen John "Ivan" Zahariev, 21, who was arrested in September 2016 for allegedly planning to go to Syria to join jihadi groups. He had pleaded innocent. The court decided to hear testimony from additional witnesses. He was raised as a Christian in Australia, but converted to Islam. He told Bulgarian national TV that he traveled to Syria in 2012 to see "what I could do to help the Syrian people." He was represented by attorney Hristo Botev, who said his client converted back to Christianity in 2016.

**June 5:** Sofia's Special Criminal Court sentenced Islamic convert John "Ivan" Zahariev, a dual Australian-Bulgarian citizen, 21, to four years in prison for planning to commit an act of terrorism and training as a terrorist with the intention of carrying out a terrorist act. He was arrested in September 2016 for training at shooting ranges in Bulgaria with the alleged intention of going to Syria to join jihadi groups.

**September 14:** A Bulgarian court sentenced three male Syrians, aged 20, 22 and 25, to six years in prison on terrorism charges for trying to go to Syria

to join militants and planned terrorist actions. The court rejected accusations that they intended to join the Muslim Brotherhood and ISIS in Syria. The trio had obtained refugee status in Germany. Bulgarian border police arrested them in February 2017. The prosecution found communications records with members of the Muslim Brotherhood and ISIS saved in the men's mobile phones. The defense lawyer said they would appeal the verdict.

# Cyprus

**June 13:** At 3 a.m., an explosion at the police headquarters of the British Dhekelia Garrison near the southeastern coast slightly injured a policeman and caused minor structural damage. Authorities blamed criminals. Cyprus state broadcaster *RIK* said that a person on a passing motorcycle threw the device at the police headquarters' entrance.

# Czech Republic

**February 24:** The regional court in Plzen convicted Czech citizen Jan Silovsky, 22, of attempting to join ISIS in Syria and sentenced him to three years and three months in prison. He was also ordered to undergo psychiatric treatment. He had pleaded guilty and expressed regret but appealed. He was arrested in 2016 at Istanbul international airport and sent back to the Czech Republic by Turkish authorities. He appealed the sentence. He said he converted to Islam about four years ago. On May 9, Prague's High Court increased the prison sentence earlier ordered by the regional appeals court in Plzen to six years for Jan Silovsky. The High Court increased the sentence at the prosecution's request. He was the first Czech indicted for such a crime.

**May 17:** The BIS counter-intelligence agency announced that it was aware of at least one case of a terror group being funded from the country. Local media said it was ISIS.

# Denmark

**February 10:** Prosecutor Lise-Lotte Nilas announced that a 16-year-old girl was formally charged with "having made preparations to make bombs" using the TATP explosive against a school west of Copenhagen and a Jewish school in Copenhagen. The girl was arrested on January 13, 2016. Her trial was to begin on April 7 in Holbaek, northwest of Copenhagen. Charges against a man, 25, initially believed to an accomplice, were dropped. She was represented by attorney Michael Juul Eriksen. She had twice visited Syria.

On April 19, The trial in the Holbaek District Court near Copenhagen began for a 17-year-old Danish girl suspected of planning bomb attacks against two schools, including her previous school west of Copenhagen and a Jewish school in Copenhagen. She was arrested in January 2016, when she was 15. The trial was scheduled to last until May 5. On May 16, *Reuters* reported that a jury in the Holbaek district found Natascha Colding-Olsen, 17, a white Danish girl who offered to fight for ISIS, guilty of attempted terrorism for planning bomb attacks at two schools, one of them Jewish. She was arrested at her home in January 2016, at age 15, and charged with planning the attacks after acquiring chemicals for making bombs. Police found a handwritten note with the words "Allahu Akbar!" (God is greatest), a date, and the address of the Jewish school in Copenhagen. A second note was marked "bomb attack on the infidels" and gave the address of her own school near Holbaek, west of Copenhagen. Police also found chemicals, a list of ingredients for making a bomb and a container marked "Tatp"—a common abbreviation for the explosive triacetone triperoxide. She offered to fight for ISIS on two *Twitter* profiles. Prosecutors said she initially confessed to planning the attacks, but later changed her plea to not guilty. She was represented by attorney Mette Grith. Colding-Olsen converted to Islam in 2015. On May 18, *AP* reported that Holbaek District Court judge Peder Christensen sentenced her to six years in jail. Prosecutors had requested that she be held in a mental institution. On May 31, Danish prosecutor Lise-Lotte Nilas announced she would appeal the sentence, saying Colding-Olsen should be incarcerated in a mental institution instead.

**March 29:** Authorities in Copenhagen arrested two men, aged 18 and 19, suspected of planning to travel to Syria to join ISIS. Defense lawyer Michael Juul Eriksen was asked to represent a defendant.

**March 31:** The Eastern High Court, an appeals court in Copenhagen, unanimously revoked the Danish citizenship of dual Turkish-Danish citizen Enes Ciftci, alias Hamza Cakan, alias Abu Aya Dinimarki, a pizzeria owner, for joining ISIS in Syria. He was arrested in 2015 after attempting to return to Syria. He was sentenced to six years in prison, one less than in a previous ruling, and would be expelled to Turkey after serving his term. He was represented by attorney Juul Eriksen.

**April 28:** Prosecutor Lise-Lotte Nilas charged six men with joining ISIS between 2013 and 2016. She said they were on a list that Danish investigators had received a year ago from unidentified "international cooperation partners." She said they were either Danish citizens or foreigners living in Denmark. They faced at least four years in prison.

**August 2:** A court in suburban Copenhagen indicted a Danish woman, 19, on suspicion of violating ter-

rorism laws for allegedly joining ISIS in Syria and having tried to help a female family member to get to Syria in March 2017. Prosecutor Bo Bjerregaard said she was "probably in Syria" and an international arrest warrant could be issued. She allegedly traveled to Syria via Turkey in June. Her court-appointed defense lawyer pleaded not guilty.

**September 20:** Prosecutor Jan Reckendorff said two men, both 24, including a Finnish national, were charged with violating Denmark's terrorist laws by traveling to Syria and Somalia to receive weapons training and join extremist groups. One joined ISIS in Syria; the other joined al-Shabaab in Somalia. The duo joined the groups in 2013 to 2015. They were arrested in January and live in western Denmark. They faced a minimum of four years in jail. The Finn faced deportation. No trial date was announced.

**September 21:** A Copenhagen court jailed a man, 28, for 25 days under Denmark's anti-terror laws for allegedly shipping drones, components for unmanned aerial vehicles and infrared cameras that were bound for ISIS in Syria and Iraq. He was held on "strong suspicion" of taking part in terrorist activities abroad by purchasing and shipping the equipment via Turkey. A woman, 29, who was arrested with him had been released by September 23. A man, 31, believed to be in Turkey, was being sought on an international arrest warrant on suspicion that he received the shipped items.

**November 28:** *Deutsche Welle* reported that a high court extended to eight years the sentence for a Danish Islamic convert, now 17, for a bomb plot. She had been sentenced when she was 15 for her plot to bomb schools. The ISIS sympathizer stabbed a youth warden with a piece of broken mirror while in jail. A district court sentenced her to six years in May 2017. Medical advisors recommended she be incarcerated for the foreseeable future. She was arrested in her home village 40 miles west of Copenhagen in January 2016. Her parents had tipped police about suspicious chemical experiments in the basement of their house. Police found bottles of hydrogen peroxide, citric acid, acetone and a plastic tray with unknown liquid residues in a metal bowl. She had written notes about her plan to target her own school and a Jewish school in Copenhagen, wrote about her support for ISIS, and tried to contact ISIS leaders on *Twitter*.

**December 21:** *Ekstra Bladet* reported that police arrested a Syrian man, 30, who planned to carry out an attack in Copenhagen using knives and explosives. He was known to Swedish intelligence as dangerous for his ISIS sympathies. The tabloid said he likely was an accomplice of a Syrian refugee who in July was sentenced to six and one half years in prison in Germany for planning a terrorist attack in Denmark.

# Finland

**May 24:** The Pirkanmaa District Court in Tampere quashed charges against Iraqi twin brothers of taking part in ISIS-related killings of eleven unarmed soldiers and freed them, saying the evidence was too weak. The twins arrived in Finland in September 2015 and were arrested in December 2015.

**August 18:** The *New York Times*, *CNN, AP*, *YLE* and *Ilta-Sanomat* reported that a Moroccan male asylum-seeker, 18, with a large knife stabbed ten people, including two men, a 15-year-old girl, and five women, among them a woman with a stroller, at two marketplaces—Kauppatori (Central Market Square) and the Puutori Market Square—in Turku. *AFP* reported that two Finnish women died and eight people, including a Swede, a Briton, and an Italian, were injured. Hassan Zubier was injured when he attempted to shield a woman who was stabbed. Police shot the attacker in the thigh and arrested him. Police arrested four Moroccans in a Turku apartment and refugee reception center during the night and were looking for a fifth, but later said it appeared the attacker acted alone. Authorities called this a terrorist attack. Some said the attacker yelled "Allahu akbar," but other witnesses said people were shouting in Finnish "watch out." Superintendent Christa Granroth of Finland's National Bureau of Investigation said, "We think that the attacker especially targeted women, and the men were wounded after coming to their defence." Police said the attacker sought asylum after arriving in Finland in early 2016. On August 21, a Finnish court said the suspect was Abderrahman Mechkah, 18, a Moroccan who was charged with murder, attempted murder, and terrorism crimes. The regional court in Turku said that four other Moroccans "are suspected of participation in the murders and attempted murders committed with a terrorist intent." On August 22, a regional court ordered Mechkah detained on suspicion of terrorist crimes, including two counts of murder and eight counts of attempted murder. Mechkah, whom the police believed was using a false identity, acknowledged the stabbings but denied murder. Three alleged accomplices were ordered held on suspicion of helping to plan the attack. On August 23, Finnish police arrested two more men on suspicion "of preparation of an offense to be committed with terrorist intent." The National Bureau of Investigation freed one man and another suspect "is no longer suspected of any crime" on August 26. National Bureau of Investigation Detective Inspector Crista Granroth said on August 27 that the suspect lied about his name and age, but international police contacts provided his true identity. He was born in 1994. 17081801

**October 18:** Prosecutors charged three men who planned to travel to Syria to become "foreign fighters with a terrorist group" between 2012 and 2013 and preparing "a crime with terrorist intent." Authorities said the trio was suspected of funding their activity through financial crimes. One man was also charged with providing terrorism-related training and recruiting. The trio pleaded not guilty.

# France

**January 19–20:** A man armed with a knife attacked passengers on two Paris Metro lines and in a train station at random, then fled. He stabbed one man three times around 9:15 p.m. inside a subway car. He attacked two other people in two nearby stations. The attacker fled around 12:50 a.m.

**January 21:** Prosecutors charged French citizen Kevin Guiavarch, 23, with association with terrorist criminals and financing terrorism. Authorities said he was a leading ISIS recruiter. The UN's terrorist sanctions list said he joined jihadis in Syria in 2012, initially the al-Nusra Front and then ISIS after its formation in 2014. He was added to the list in 2014 on suspicion of recruiting and financing terrorism.

**February 3:** *NPR* reported that a soldier fired four rounds into the stomach of Egyptian-born UAE resident Abdullah Reda Refaie al-Hamahmy, 28, who was wielding a knife while trying to bring two backpacks (*AP* said briefcases) into the Carrousel du Louvre gift shop of the Louvre in Paris. The *Washington Post* added that he was carrying two machetes, yelled "allahu akbar," and tried to stab one of four soldiers with a knife when he was prevented from entering the shop with the bags. The backpacks did not have explosives. The soldier was slightly wounded in the scalp. A second person was arrested but did not appear to be involved. The attacker arrived in Paris on a tourist visa on January 26. On January 28, he bought two military machetes at a Paris gun store. He paid 1,700 euros ($1,834) for a one-week stay at a Paris apartment in the 8th arrondissement. Egypt found no criminal/radical record of him. In a tweet in Arabic, al-Hamahmy said, "No negotiation, no compromise, no letting up, certainly no climb down, relent less war." His father said Abdullah was married with a seven-month-old child. His brother Ahmed works at the Health Ministry in Dubai. On February 10, al-Hamahmy was charged with attempted murder and association with a terrorist organization.

**February 10:** Anti-terrorism forces in Montpellier, Clapiers and Marseillan arrested four people, including a 16-year-old girl, and uncovered a laboratory with 70 grams of the explosive TATP and other base ingredients—a liter each of acetone, oxygenated water and sulfuric acid—for making a bomb, in the home of a 20-year-old man in the Montpellier area. Among the detainees were two men, 26 and 33. One of the suspects was believed to be planning a suicide attack against an undetermined target. One suspect had pledged loyalty to ISIS.

**February 21:** During anti-terrorism raids in Clermont-Ferrand, southern Marseille and Paris, police arrested three men. A bomb squad found a training grenade at the Clermont-Ferrand home of one of the men, who had been previously identified as an extremist.

**February 28:** *France 3* reported that in the morning an 18-year-old woman in her final year of high school was detained in Creil in northern France in a suspected attack plot. *France 3* said she was linked online to a group of girls who called themselves "The Lionesses" and had had communication with Rachid Kassim, a French IS fighter who was targeted in an American drone strike in early February and who was believed to have controlled multiple plots.

**March 16:** A letter bomb exploded at the Paris office of the International Monetary Fund, lightly injuring one person. 17031601

**March 18:** At 8:22 a.m., two male soldiers shot to death French-born Ziyed Ben Belgacem, 39, who dropped a shopping bag containing gasoline and seized a female Sentinel soldier's FAMAS assault rifle in the south terminal of Paris's Orly Airport. He held a revolver filled with birdshot to her head and planned to fire at passengers. Prosecutor François Molins said Belgacem told the officers "put down your weapons. Put your hands on your head. I am here to die for Allah. Whatever happens, there will be deaths." The soldiers fired eight rounds at Belgacem.

The *New York Times* reported that at 6:55 a.m., he was involved in a carjacking and another shooting at a traffic stop in Garges-lès-Gonesse, north of Paris, injuring a police officer with birdshot. He had been speeding with his lights off. He later stole a woman's vehicle at gunpoint in Vitry-sur-Seine before driving to Orly. Belgacem, born in 1978, was known to police and intelligence services for armed robbery, drug trafficking and Islamist radicalism following a 2011–2012 prison stint.

Belgacem's cousin, father and brother were detained. Police released the father overnight, and later released the cousin and brother. His father told French radio *Europe 1* that Belgacem was not a practicing Muslim and drank alcohol.

Belgacem's autopsy included a blood test that indicated that he had cocaine and cannabis, along with 0.93 grams of alcohol per liter of blood, in his system. He stopped at a bar in the wee hours, four hours before he first fired bird shot at traffic police. Police found cocaine in his flat. He was carrying cigarettes, 750 euros, a lighter, and a Koran.

On March 21, *AP* reported that two people were detained on suspicion of involvement in providing the weapon to Belgacem; they faced preliminary charges of association with a terrorist enterprise.

**March 20:** An individual phoned a bomb threat against the headquarters of the national financial prosecutor in Paris.

**March 24:** A gunman fired near a metro station in Lille during the night, injuring three people, including a minor, before fleeing.

**April 8:** The Interior Ministry expelled Hani Ramadan, a Swiss Islamic preacher with extremist views, to Switzerland. He was arrested in Colmar, in eastern France, as he was taking part in a conference. Police said he was "known in the past to have adopted a behavior and made comments which pose a serious threat to public order on the French soil." In 2002, he was banned from teaching in a Swiss school because he had publicly defended the stoning of adulterers. His brother is Islamic scholar Tariq Ramadan. The two are grandsons of the founder of Egypt's banned Muslim Brotherhood.

**April 13:** A gasoline bomb hit the building housing French far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen's campaign headquarters, causing a small fire but no injuries during the night. The device hit an insurance office on the ground floor. Vandals also scrawled graffiti targeting Le Pen's anti-immigration National Front party. Le Pen told *France-2* television that she suspects extreme-left activists.

**April 18:** Agents from the French domestic security agency, backed by elite police units in Marseille, arrested two suspected French jihadis believed to be planning an imminent terrorist attack days before the first round of France's presidential election. One was born in 1987; the other in 1993. Police seized an automatic rifle, two handguns, ammunition and three kilograms of explosives of a type previously used in attacks in France and Belgium. Among those held was Frenchman Clement Baur, 23, who was identified by his family in 2015 as having been radicalized and who was considering going to Syria. French officials said he was linked to Belgian jihadi networks. He had been wanted in an earlier Belgian investigation.

**April 20:** At 8:50 p.m., a gunman got out of a car and fired an AK-47 assault rifle at a police patrol van parked near the Franklin Roosevelt metro station in front of a Marks and Spencer store on the Champs-Elysees in Paris, killing officer Xavier Jugelé, 37, and seriously wounding two other police officers and a female German tourist, before police shot him to death. Police recovered an ID card on the shooter and found the addresses of police stations written on bits of paper, knives and a pump-action shotgun in his car. Police searched his home in Seine-et-Marne outside Paris. ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency claimed credit for Belgian national Abu Yusuf al-Baljiki. The attacker was known to French intelligence because of his jihadi links. The *Washington Post* reported that he was Karim Cheurfi, 39. *AP* said he had been detained in February 2017 for threatening police but was released for lack of evidence. He was convicted in 2003 of attempting homicide in the shootings of two police officers. *Reuters* reported that police issued an arrest warrant for a second suspect who they said had arrived in France by train from Belgium. The next morning, French police detained three family members of Cheurfi. Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins said Cheurfi was carrying a note defending ISIS.

Jugelé was one of the police officers who responded to the attack on the Bataclan concert hall on November 13, 2015. On April 25, presidential candidates Marine Le Pen and Emmanuel Macro, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo and former president Nicolas Sarkozy attended a national ceremony to honor Jugelé.

On June 1 *CNN* reported the posthumous wedding of Etienne Cardiles and the late Xavier Jugelé was held in the town hall of the 14th arrondissement in Paris on May 30. Mayor Anne Hidalgo and former President Francois Hollande attended the ceremony. In April, Jugelé was posthumously awarded the Legion of Honor. 17042001

**April 22:** Police arrested a man with a knife at Paris's Gare du Nord transit station. No one was injured.

**April 26:** Police arrested ten people in an investigation of suspected suppliers of weapons to Amedy Coulibaly, one of the attackers who killed 17 people at *Charlie Hebdo* magazine and a kosher store in January 2015.

Police in Trappes separately arrested four people in an unrelated anti-terror probe.

**May 2:** Antiterrorism authorities raided locations in Rouen, in Villeneuve d'Ascq near Lille, and in Roanne, detaining five men aged between 18 and 24 years old and seizing weapons.

**May 5:** Paris prosecutor's office spokeswoman Agnes Thibault-Lecuivre said police detained a man on a list of national security threats near a French military air base in Evreux in the northern region of Normandy. Authorities found a pump-action shotgun and two revolvers in the bushes near his car. He claimed that an USB key discovered in his car contained an ISIS pledge of allegiance.

**May 9:** Police searched for Belgians Bilal al-Marchohi and Tarik Jadaoun, and Afghan national Zabihullah Sarwari, three men suspected of plotting an ISIS-inspired attack. A ticket vendor in Valenciennes thought she recognized one of the three men listed on police wanted notices on social networks. BRI

intervention police evacuated one of Paris's main transit hubs, the Gare du Nord, at 11 p.m.

**May 30:** Authorities in Bordeaux detained six members of an alleged ISIS recruiting network, including Sabir Mahfouz Lahmar, 48, who was freed from Guantanamo Bay in 2009 after then–French President Nicolas Sarkozy agreed to take him in April 2009. He was one of six Algerians detained in Bosnia in 2001 on suspicion of plotting to bomb the U.S. embassy in Sarajevo. Lahmar moved to Bordeaux in 2009. Lamar was the oldest of the four men and two women who were held.

**June 6:** *CNN, AFP*, and *Reuters* reported that at 4:20 p.m., Paris police shot in the chest a man who yelled "This is for Syria" and tried to attack police with a hammer at the 12th century Cathedral of Notre Dame. A police officer in a three-person patrol was lightly wounded. Farid Ikken was carrying a hammer, kitchen knives, and a University of Lorraine student identity card indicating he was from Algeria. The head of the Municipal Police Defense Union, Cedric Michel, said Ikken was circa 40 years old. Police took Ikken to a local hospital with a shotgun injury to the torso. *AP* reported that Ikken was a former journalist for North African media who was working since 2014 on a doctoral thesis about North African media and had not been suspected of radicalization. Police searching Ikken's residence outside Paris found a filmed declaration of allegiance to ISIS in which he said he was a "soldier of the caliphate," a laptop, and four USB sticks that included jihadi propaganda, photos and videos referring to attacks in London, Paris, Brussels and at a church in Normandy, and images of the war in Syria. Thesis director Arnaud Mercier told *BFM* that the suspect spoke Swedish, Arabic and French and that his resume indicated that he had worked as a journalist in Sweden and Algeria. Journalist and former colleague Kamal Ouhnia said Ikken loved good wine, was completely secular, had recently split from his wife, had professional setbacks, and was unhappy that he could not return to Algeria.

The Paris prosecutor's office said on June 10 that Ikken self-radicalized himself on the Internet and was unknown to French police and intelligence. On June 9, he was preliminarily charged with attempted murder of a police officer in connection with a terrorist enterprise and crime of terrorist conspiracy. Ikken was born in Akbou, in northern Algeria, as the youngest of a dozen children, and studied journalism when he moved to Sweden in 2001. He had returned to Algeria in 2011 to establish an online newsletter and work as a journalist. He moved to France in 2013, and was legally living in the Paris suburb of Cergy-Pontoise. He purchased the hammer and knives in a supermarket on March 27. 17060601

**June 19:** At 3:40 p.m., an armed man rammed his car into a police van in Paris's Champs-Elysees shopping district. Initial reports said he had been arrested, but the media later said he died when his small white car caught fire. No other injuries were reported. Police said Adam Djaziri, 31, was born in the Paris suburb of Argenteuil, and had an "S" file, indicating authorities had been aware of potential links to extremism. However, he was able to keep his gun permit. Police detained four of his family members. Paris prosecutor Francois Molins said Djaziri had left behind a confessor letter in which he pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and Iraq, and asked his family to remember him as a martyr. Djaziri had wanted to join ISIS in Syria. Molins said Tunisian authorities issued a search warrant for him in 2014 on suspicion of ties to a terrorist group. He left behind caches of weapons at home and in the vehicle he drove, including assault rifles, a Glock handgun, chargers, thousands of rounds of ammunition and knives. Two 13-kilogram (28.7-pound) canisters of gas, their safety caps sealed, were in its back seat. He married a Tunisian in 2009 and had two daughters. He visited Turkey thrice in 2016, claiming he went there for his job as a metal importer and jewel trader. In 2016, he had gold, jewels and nearly 5,000 euros on him.

**June 29:** *CNN* reported that a man was arrested for attempting to drive his SUV through a crowd outside a mosque in the Paris suburb of Creteil. He hit the protective barriers several times at 6:30 p.m. No one was injured. Police arrested the driver at his home.

*AP* reported on July 3 that Paris prosecutor's office spokeswoman Agnes Thibault-Lecuivre said that a 23-year-old man was preliminarily charged with terrorism for plotting a possible attack on President Emmanuel Macron on July 14 (Bastille Day) or minority groups. Authorities said he was believed to have acted alone. He was arrested in Argenteiul on June 29 and expressed nationalist views.

**July 5:** *La Voix du Nord* newspaper reported that during an anti-terror operation, police detained a man in Lille.

Authorities in Wattignies, in northern France, jailed a 42-year-old man believed involved in an attack plot. On July 8, an anti-terrorism magistrate in Paris issued preliminary charges of criminal terrorist association, acquiring arms and holding and transporting them in connection with a terrorist enterprise. French media reported that the man was linked to two brothers recently arrested in Belgium with an arsenal of weapons and police uniforms.

**August 9:** At 8 a.m., a driver crashed his black BMW into a group of soldiers of the 35th Infantry Regiment leaving their barracks at Place de Verdun in the western Paris suburb of Levallois-Perret, injuring six of them in the face, knees, hands and arms, before speeding away. The principal suspect was later shot five times in a gunfight and arrested on the A16 highway

near Boulogne-sur-Mer in northern France, 160 miles away from the initial attack, according to *BFM TV*. *UPI* reported that a police officer was injured by gunfire during the apprehension. Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said that the driver intentionally targeted soldiers. The driver was held on charges of attempted murder of security forces in connection with a terrorist enterprise. Lavallois-Perret Mayor Patrick Balkany said that the car was "pre-positioned" in an alleyway. The Paris prosecutors' office said the incident was a deliberate act of terrorism. *NPR* added that the arresting officers belonged to the special Research and Intervention Brigade (BRI), which takes on serious crime in France. *BFM TV* said the attacker was born in 1980. Police searched a building in Sartrouville believed linked to the suspect, as well as an apartment in Bezons, north of Paris. Police later said Hamou Benlatreche, 36 or 37, was an Algerian living legally in France who had been a suspect in minor crimes but had never been convicted and was not known for radical beliefs. Mohammed Benlatreche, Hamou's uncle, told *BFM* that Hamou was a practicing Muslim who worked as a driver for deliveries and for Uber. Prosecutor Francois Molins said on August 23 that Benlatreche had radical beliefs and showed interest in ISIS. Investigators have found images in Benlatreche's phone that were connected to ISIS, including a flag and photos of its leaders. On another phone found in Benlatreche's car, police found evidence of Internet research about visas and flights to Turkey and articles about Syria. Molins said Benlatreche belonged to Tablighi Jamaat. A man linked to Benlatreche was released in mid–August without charges.

**September 6:** Authorities raided a suspected jihadi bomb lab in a Villejuif apartment two miles outside Paris in the morning and found 100 grams of triacetone triperoxide (TATP), a peroxide-based explosive. Police detained two suspects following a tip from a repairman who noticed suspicious products in an apartment. The Paris prosecutor's office's counterterrorism section opened an investigation under potential charges of "criminal terrorist association" and "possession, transportation and production of explosive substances in relation with a terrorist action by an organized gang." Another man was arrested the next day. Investigators found more explosive components in a nearby garage in Thiais, a Villejuif suburb, rented by one of the suspects. The trio had discussed targeting banks and had spoken by phone with someone in Syria. The men were between 36 and 47 years old. On September 10, French prosecutors issued preliminary charges of terrorist association and the manufacture of explosives against two men, while releasing a third. Ali M.R., 36, was an apartment owner who said he was following ISIS bomb-making videos. Frederic L., earlier known to intelligence authorities, aimed "to manufacture a bomb" to carry out an attack in France to take revenge on the international coalition against IS. Frederic L. had links with French jihadist and ISIS recruiter Rachid Kassim. Prosecutors said the two suspects admitted they had wished to join ISIS but never made it to Syria.

**September 13:** An unarmed man yelled "Allahu Akbar" and punched and kicked several people in the streets of Toulouse, then assaulted officers who arrested him, slightly injuring three police officers and two bystanders. *La Depeche* reported that he was born in 1975, had been in a psychiatric hospital before April and did not have any criminal convictions.

**September 15:** A knife-wielding man tried to attack a Sentinelle soldier patrolling the Chatelet subway station in Paris. The assailant was quickly arrested and no one was hurt. Authorities said the background of the assailant merited opening of a terrorism investigation. 17091501

**September 28:** A court sentenced Nathalie Haddadi, mother of a French jihadi who joined ISIS in Syria, to two years in prison for sending 2,000 euros ($2,357) to her son, Belabbas Bounaga, who is believed to have died. She was charged with financing terrorism. She claimed he was vacationing in Malaysia and she was trying to help him.

**September 30:** Authorities arrested five people in an apartment in the 16th arrondissement in Paris regarding an apparent failed bombing attempt. They remained in custody as of October 3. A neighbor tipped authorities to suspicious activity in the building, where police found and deactivated an explosive device. Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said that one suspect was under government surveillance for radicalism.

**October 1:** A man with a knife, yelling "Allahu Akbar," stabbed to death two women at Marseille's main Saint Charles train station. He slit one woman's throat. He ran away, then came back to attack a second woman. Soldiers fatally shot the attacker, who was carrying two knives and a phone, but no ID papers. French authorities noted that he had been detained in Lyon for shoplifting and released the day before the attack. *ANSA* reported that he had shown police a Tunisian passport identifying him as Ahmed Hanachi, his true name, and had Italian residency in Aprilia, south of Rome, from 2006 to 2014. He had been married to an Italian woman. At least two of his brothers came to Italy. He had used seven fake identities in previous encounters with police. His fingerprints matched those taken during seven previous incidents registered by police since 2005. He had no previous convictions in France. He did odd jobs, used hard drugs and was divorced. The mayor of Eguilles said the victims were a medical student from Eguilles and her cousin.

On October 3, authorities detained four people suspected of helping the attacker. They were held on suspicion of criminal association in relation with a terrorist undertaking. On October 6, a French legal official said four men and a woman close to the attacker were released without charges because of the "absence of incriminating evidence at this stage."

Italian police arrested Anis Hanachi, 25, Ahmed's brother, while riding a bicycle in the center of Ferrara on October 7 on an international warrant issued by French authorities who accused him of involvement in the attack and of international terrorism. Authorities said Anis had fought in Syria, was expelled from Italy to Tunisia in 2014 following his illegal arrival in Sicily on a smuggler's boat, and was believed responsible for radicalizing Ahmed. Anis had no ID and claimed to be Algerian. Ferrara police chief Antonio Sbordone told *Sky Italia 24* that Anis was staying in Ferrara with a Tunisian friend. Anis was awaiting extradition to France. He was transferred to France from Italy on November 2, and was to face a French judge the next day.

On October 10, Swiss Fedpol national police announced that they had detained a brother of Ahmed Hanachi, along with a female companion, in Chiasso, near the Italian border. The two Tunisian asylum-seekers posed a potential risk to Swiss domestic security "in connection with terrorist activities abroad." Fedpol said he was "known to foreign police services for his links to the jihadist terrorist movement…. For now, his role, if any, in the Marseille attack is not clear." Police ordered the expulsion of the duo to Tunisia for security and administrative reasons. No international arrest warrant was outstanding for either of them. They were being held in custody pending possible appeals.

**October 3:** Authorities arrested three men at an apartment building in an upscale Paris neighborhood where police found an explosive device with gas canisters that failed to ignite. They were held on preliminary charges of attempted murder linked to a terrorist enterprise and transporting explosives. Aymen B. and Amine A. were on a list for radicalization. Aymen B.'s cousin, Samy B., also was charged.

**October 6:** *Reuters* reported that a French court sentenced Christine Riviere, 51, called by investigators "Jihadi Gran," a radicalized French mother of three, to ten years in prison after traveling to Syria where her son, Tyler Vilus, was leading a Francophile group for ISIS. She was arrested in 2014 after three trips to Syria. She claimed she wanted to spend time with her son in case he was killed. She was found guilty of financing terrorism after sending money to her son, and was sentenced to two years in jail. Vilus was arrested in July 2015 in Turkey and was imprisoned in France. He was suspected of having known members of the network that planned and carried out the November 2015 attacks in Paris in which 130 people were killed.

**October 17:** Counterterrorism police arrested ten people believed linked to Logan N., a far-right extremist arrested in June on suspicion of planning attacks against mosques, politicians and migrants. They were detained under a possible charge of criminal terrorist association. Authorities claimed Logan N. maintained a *Facebook* page glorifying Anders Behring Breivik, the former name of a convicted far-right Norwegian terrorist who killed 77 people.

On October 21, prosecutors issued preliminary terrorist association charges against eight people suspected of belonging to a French far-right extremist group for allegedly plotting attacks against mosques, politicians and migrants. Three were minors. Seven were in custody. They were believed linked to Logan N., the founder of a newly formed ultra-nationalist group, who was arrested in southern France in June. Investigators believed the group was planning to extort money from business leaders and use it to buy weapons. Some had trained in shooting and stolen a vehicle for the alleged plot.

**November 6:** *Charlie Hebdo* said it had received new death threats after its latest front page cartoon on Islam and rape allegations against controversial Muslim scholar Tariq Ramadan.

**November 7:** French and Swiss counterterrorism police in Aix-en-Provence, Menton on the Mediterranean coast, and Paris suburbs arrested ten people—nine in France and one Colombian woman, 23, in Switzerland—suspected of using encrypted social networks, including *Telegram*, to prepare a possible attack. The Colombian woman and a Swiss man, 27, were targets of a Swiss investigation into banned Islamic extremist groups. Police conducted additional searches in the Paris suburbs and in southeastern France. The arrest in Switzerland followed searches of buildings in the French-speaking Vaud and Neuchatel regions. On November 11, the Paris prosecutor's office issued preliminary charges of association with a terrorist network against eight suspects, including seven in custody and one under judicial supervision. Some of the suspects earlier were flagged for alleged Islamic radicalization.

**November 10:** *CNN* affiliate *BFM TV* reported that a car was intentionally accelerated and driven into a group of students crossing a road outside Saint Exupéry high school in Toulouse's Blagnac suburb, injuring three Chinese students, two seriously. Authorities arrested the suspected driver, who had a history of psychiatric problems and was known to police for ten minor crimes. He had no known radical links.

## Germany

**January 3:** Federal prosecutors obtained a new warrant against Harry S., 28, a German accused of par-

ticipating in the killing of six captives by ISIS in a square in Palmyra in June 2015 and committing war crimes. Prosecutors charged he had a pistol, led one of the captives to the execution site and prevented others from fleeing. He joined IS in Syria in 2015. In July 2016, a Hamburg court sentenced him to three years in prison for membership of a terrorist group and violating weapons export laws.

**January 6:** Police told *DPA* they found 100 kilograms of explosive material in a home in southwestern Germany and are investigating if two suspects, aged 18 and 24, were planning a far-right attack. The duo was held on suspicion of breaking German explosives regulations and planning an act of violence. They said they were trying to make fireworks. The materials were in the basement of the 18-year-old's parent's home in Lauterecken.

**January 24:** Authorities near Bonn arrested German-Moroccan brothers Rachid B., 25, and Khalid B., 24, who were suspected of being members of the Islamic State and al-Nusra Front. Prosecutors said they traveled to Syria in 2013, where they trained in military camps. Rachid B. initially joined al-Nusra and was accused of kidnapping and holding an alleged spy. He later joined ISIS and participated in several battles. Khalid B. joined ISIS right away, went to a military training camp and also participated in ISIS battles.

**January 25:** Some 200 police officers searched a dozen apartments in Berlin and other cities in connection with an extremist far right group accused of wanting to attack police, asylum seekers and Jews. The federal prosecutor's office said authorities searched the homes of six people accused of founding a network on social media in the spring of 2016 to execute armed attacks. A seventh person was accused of supporting the network with acquisitions. There were no indications of concrete plans for attacks. The alleged ringleader, 66, was charged with incitement. On January 26, federal prosecutors charged German man Thiemo B. with breaking weapons law and helping to form a terrorist organization. Prosecutors said he possessed explosives, weapons and ammunition that were seized as evidence.

**January 30:** The Cologne regional court found seven men, aged between 24 and 37, guilty of burglarizing up to five churches and other buildings between 2013 and 2014 to financially support jihadis fighting in Syria and sentenced them to between three years and six months, and four years and ten months in prison. An eighth man was sentenced to two years and seven months for serious bodily harm. Five were German citizens, two held German and Tunisian citizenship, and one held German and Moroccan citizenship.

**February 1:** Prosecutors indicted Wajid S., 28, an Afghan man, on suspicion of fighting for the Taliban in Afghanistan's Kapisa Province in 2014 and 2015, during which his unit attacked Afghan police, and breaking arms control laws. He was believed to have joined the Taliban in Afghanistan in 2009 and received weapons training. He was arrested on October 27, 2016, claiming to be 19.

Authorities in Frankfurt raided 54 apartments, business premises and mosques and arrested a Tunisian male asylum seeker, 36, suspected of being an ISIS recruiter since August 2015 and building a network of supporters to carry out an attack in Germany. He was held for supporting a foreign terrorist organization. Investigators were focused on 16 people aged between 16 and 46. The Tunisian was in Germany from 2003 to 2013, then returned in August 2015 as an asylum-seeker using a different name. He was arrested a year later in Frankfurt, because he had not finished serving a 2008 sentence for bodily harm. Tunisia was also seeking his extradition for involvement in the March 2015 attack on the Bardo Museum in Tunis and a March 2016 attack by IS on Ben Guerdane. He was released in November 2016 after completing his previous sentence. The Frankfurt prosecutor's office said it was investigating a German Iraqi, 17, and a German Afghan, 16, suspected of joining or attempting to join jihadis in Syria and Iraq.

In a separate case, Berlin prosecutors arrested three people during the night who were suspected of planning to travel to Syria or Iraq to undergo explosives and weapons training with ISIS. The trio was associated with the Fussilet mosque in Berlin.

**February 7:** Federal prosecutors obtained an arrest warrant for Karl Burghard B., 66, a German suspected of involvement in a far-right extremist group that wanted to attack police, asylum-seekers and Jews, along with weapons violations and helping to form a terrorist organization. He was already in detention on a different case. Officers who raided his apartment in January found weapons and ammunition. Prosecutors said seven people were being investigated.

Police raided 15 homes and offices in the states of Bavaria, Baden-Wuerttemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate that were linked to the anti-government Reich Citizens' Movement suspected of trying to establish their own state. Seven people were suspected of engaging in forgery by producing documents issued by the "German Reich." Nine others were suspected sympathizers or customers.

Federal prosecutors announced the arrest in the Greifswald area of Akram A., 31, a Syrian man accused of membership in a terrorist organization (ISIS) and of a war crime by raping a woman as she tried to flee with her children from ISIS-controlled territory in Syria in early 2016. Prosecutors said he ran an ISIS checkpoint set up to control people leaving territory, lured her to a house under the pretext of getting her an "exit permit," then raped her.

**February 7:** Authorities arrested Russian national Suleym K., 19, in Cologne for undergoing military training in Syria after arriving in the summer of 2014 and membership in a terrorist organization, ISIS. He left Syria and returned to Turkey in November 2014.

**February 8:** Authorities in Bavaria arrested Abdol S., 20, an Afghan suspected of membership in Afghanistan's Taliban. He was accused of taking part in an attack in which an American soldier was killed. Prosecutors said he joined the Taliban in Afghanistan in 2013 and was trained to use an AK-47 assault rifle and hand grenades. In 2013 and 2014, he participated at least twice in fighting against Afghan government troops and U.S. soldiers. One U.S. soldier was killed and two others wounded during one of the attacks.

**February 9:** Police raided twelve properties in Goettingen and detained two Salafi extremists—an Algerian, 27, and a Nigerian, 23—regarding possible plans for an attack.

**February 10:** Frankfurt prosecutors charged a 28-year-old Turkish man with membership in a terrorist organization on allegations he joined ISIS and Junad al-Sham in 2013 in Syria. Prosecutors claimed he received paramilitary training with Junad but then left to join ISIS because he wanted a better opportunity to fight. He returned to Frankfurt via Turkey in late 2013. He was in investigative custody since September 2016.

**February 22:** Northeim police and Celle prosecutors took into custody suspected German jihadi Sascha L., 29, from Northeim, Lower Saxony. He admitted that he wanted to lure a police officer or soldier into a trap and detonate a self-made explosive device. Police found in his apartment chemicals and electronics needed for building an explosive device. The *Washington Post* and *Der Spiegel* added on February 28, that until 2013, he might have been a neo–Nazi. Authorities found a *YouTube* posting in which he warned of the threat posed by Muslims, whom he accused of trying to impose Islamic law on the country, as well as left-wing activists and anti-fascists. On occasion he wore a white mask, suggesting a possible link to the Immortals, a prominent neo–Nazi organization in Germany. One May 2013 video, titled "Tips for the fight against cockroaches," showed Sascha calling for attacks against immigrants in Germany. He apparently converted to Islam in 2014, adding to his *Facebook* page, "Don't push! I have a bomb in my backpack." He also was tried for spreading the prohibited symbols of ISIS on the Internet.

**February 25:** A German male student, 35, drove a rental car into pedestrians outside a bakery in a central square in Heidelberg during the afternoon, killing a 73-year-old German man and injuring a 32-year-old Austrian man and a 29-year-old Bosnian woman, then fled and was shot by police during a standoff in which he brandished a knife. Prosecutors said that there were no indications of any terrorist background. He was held on suspicion of murder and attempted murder. He lived in Heidelberg.

**February 28:** Starting at 6 a.m., some 450 police officers raided 24 locations (a mosque, 15 apartments, two company officers, and six prison cells) in Berlin, Brandenburg State, and Hamburg that were linked to a mosque that was frequented by the Berlin market attacker Anis Amri. No arrests were made. Authorities banned Fussilet 33, the Islamic group that operated the prayer house, seized its funds, shut down its website, and imposed a plenary ban to prevent the organization from establishing itself under a different name or location. Several prominent Fussilet 33 members had been arrested earlier on suspicion of supporting extremist organizations such as ISIS and Junad al-Sham.

**March 1–2:** The federal prosecutor's office announced the arrests on March 1 and 2 of two Syrians suspected of being members of the Nusra Front. Abdalfatah H.A., 35, was suspected of war crimes for killing 36 Syrian government employees by his unit in March 2013. The government said he carried out "so-called Shariah death sentences." The media claimed he came to Germany as an asylum-seeker. Detainee Abdulrahman A.A., 26, belonged to the same combat unit as Abdalfatah H.A. and both participated in an armed battle against Syrian government troops, including taking over an arms depot near Mahin in November 2013. The two men were arrested in Duesseldorf and Giessen and their apartments were raided. Prosecutors said their Nusra Front unit included Abd Arahman A. K., a Syrian in his early 30s who was arrested in Germany in June 2016 on suspicion of plotting a bombing in Duesseldorf.

**March 7:** The Dresden trial began of eight Germans accused of forming the right-wing Freital Group and bombing asylum-seeker facilities and left-wing political targets. Among the accused were several men and one woman, aged between 19 and 39. Prosecutors said the group bombed the car of a Left party politician and a Left party office in Freital, and two refugee homes in which windows were blown out and one asylum-seeker suffered facial cuts, between July and November 2015. The suspects had been in detention since April 2016. Police believed they used powerful firecrackers from the Czech Republic that are banned in Germany to make pipe bombs and other improvised explosive devices. *DPA* identified the defendants as Timo S., 27; Patrick F., 25; Philipp W., 29; Justin S., 19; Maria K., 28; Mike S., 38; Sebastian W., 26; and Rico K., 38. Prosecutors claimed Timo S. and Patrick F. played a "central leadership role," planning and organizing the attacks. Seven suspects were charged with attempted murder; Mike S.

was charged with accessory to attempted murder. They also faced explosives-related charges.

**March 8:** Federal prosecutors charged four men with membership in a terrorist organization for allegedly joining ISIS in Syria. Syrian citizens Saleh A., 25; Hamza C., 27; and Mahood B., 25, were accused of planning to conduct an attack in Duesseldorf's old town using explosive vests and shooting fleeing survivors. However, one of the men turned himself in to French police. German police announced they had uncovered the plot in June 2016. Prosecutors said Saleh A. first joined the Free Syrian Army and then the Nusra Front, fighting against Syrian government troops. He later joined ISIS and with Hamza C. scouted ways of smuggling people from Europe to Turkey from mid to late 2014. The men traveled to Europe separately in March and July of 2015. Mahood B. joined them in January 2016. They allegedly planned to finance the attack by selling the Vatican a video of a priest captured by ISIS in Syria. During a trip to Paris, Saleh A. approached police and turned himself in. He was extradited to Germany in September 2016 and remained in custody along with the two other men, who were arrested on June 2, 2016.

Separately, federal prosecutors charged Mukhamadsaid S., 31, a Tajik man, with ISIS membership. He traveled to Syria before February 2015 and underwent military training with ISIS. He was accused of serving as a guard and helping the group with administration, while also appearing in at least five *YouTube* recruitment propaganda videos. He was arrested in Germany in June 2016.

**March 9:** Shortly before 9 p.m., a man, 36, from Kosovo swung an ax to injure nine people, four seriously, at Duesseldorf's main train station before being arrested. The next day, police said four female passengers, including two Italian tourists and a 13-year-old girl, and five men were among the injured. The attacker was injured when he jumped from a bridge while trying to escape. He appeared to be suffering from psychological problems and may have been receiving treatment. One officer told the media, "He said in a first interview that he was trying to get police to shoot him. We call it 'suicide by cop.'" Medical documents found at the man's home in Wuppertal indicated that the suspect had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. He had been sitting in a commuter train and began attacking fellow passengers as they tried to get out at Duesseldorf station. One passenger shoved the man out of the train and the driver shut the doors. Prosecutor Martin Stuecke said the man came to Germany in 2009 and was granted temporary residency for humanitarian reasons. Prosecutors would charge him with nine counts of attempted manslaughter. On September 22 *AP* reported that a German court sent the attacker to a psychiatric hospital indefinitely. He faced eight counts of attempted manslaughter in a trial at the Duesseldorf state court. *DPA* reported that judges ruled that he was suffering from schizophrenia at the time of the attack and could not be held criminally responsible. He told a psychiatrist that voices had ordered him to carry out the attack and he had done it in hopes of being fatally shot by police.

**March 11:** *CNN* and *Reuters* reported that police closed the large Limbecker Platz shopping mall in Essen after receiving "concrete indications" of a possible ISIS terrorist attack. Police searched an apartment in Oberhausen and questioned the apartment's owner, as well as a man who was detained at an Internet café. *Bild, Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* and public broadcaster *WDR* reported the next day that a German fighter with ISIS in Syria had contacted online via *Messenger* a group of fighters based in Germany and abroad and tried to motivate them to attack the mall.

**March 15:** Police bomb techs used a controlled detonation to safely dispose of a package sent to the German Finance Ministry that contained low-grade explosives like the ones used in fire crackers. The Greek Conspiracy Cells of Fire claimed credit, saying the attack was part of a campaign of violence by international anarchist groups.

**March 16:** Federal prosecutors charged German man Anil O., 23, with membership in a terrorist organization for joining ISIS in Syria. Prosecutors said he traveled to Syria in August 2015, planning to work as a medic for ISIS. He soon became disillusioned with ISIS after seeing how it treated fellow Muslims. He tried several times to flee ISIS-held territory, succeeding in January 2016. He returned to Germany in September 2016 and was arrested at Duesseldorf airport.

German police in Berlin detained a Bahraini Shi'ite man, 27, wanted by Bahrain on suspicion of terrorism.

**March 22:** The Federal Administrative Court approved the planned deportation of two foreign male jihadis, an Algerian and a Nigerian, who were born in Germany. There was no proof they committed a serious offense. The duo was detained in February in Goettingen. Investigators found two weapons, at least one of them a firearm that required no permit but had been altered to fire live ammunition. Also found were ammunition, ISIS flags and a machete. Authorities planned to ban them for life from returning to Germany.

**March 23:** Hesse State Interior Minister Peter Beuth German announced the banning of the Almadinah Islamic Culture Association that ran a mosque in Kassel because the group's leading imam had, inter alia, repeatedly called for killing infidels in his sermons. Several members of the mosque had left Germany for Syria to join jihadi fighters there.

**March 28:** Authorities said that during the previous week, Bavarian authorities arrested Afghan citizen Abdullah P., 30, on suspicion of commanding a Taliban unit responsible for an attack on a convoy that killed 16 American and Afghan soldiers, membership in a terrorist organization and attempted murder. He allegedly joined the Taliban in 2002 and took over a command from his father in 2004. He left his combat unit in 2008, fled in 2009 to Pakistan, and arrived in Germany in 2011.

**March 29:** After an eleven-day trial, the Duesseldorf state court convicted German citizen Hossam A., 19, of membership in ISIS and sentenced him as a youth to three years and three months in prison. The court said he was a guard and in an IS combat unit in Syria from August 2014 to March 2015, when he was 17.

**March 30:** Prosecutors charged Hekmat T., 21, an Afghan man who was arrested in December 2016, with membership in the Taliban, six counts of being an accessory to attempted murder for his role in fighting Afghan police and security forces, and violating weapons control laws. Prosecutors believed he joined the Taliban in Afghanistan in mid–2013 and received weapons training. He then participated in several battles with Afghan police, in two cases firing shots. Prosecutors said he left the Taliban in early 2014.

**April 3:** The Duesseldorf regional court sentenced jihadi Marco G., 29, to life in prison for attempted murder by an explosive device placed at the main train station in the western city of Bonn in December 2012. The bomb was found before it could go off. The court ruled out his release after 15 years, the usual life term in Germany. *DPA* reported that G., Albanian citizen Enea B., 46, German-Turkish dual national Koray D., 28, and German citizen Tayfun S., 27, were sentenced between nine and one half years and twelve years in prison for a separate plot to kill a German far-right Pro NRW party politician who had taken part in protests against mosques during which caricatures of the Muslim prophet Muhammad were shown. The four were arrested in March 2013, the night before the plot was to proceed. Prosecutors said the men's plan was partly fueled by an audio message by the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.

**April 6:** *DPA* reported that the government deported to Lagos, Nigeria an alleged male Islamic extremist, 22, deemed dangerous by authorities. He was born in Germany and had not committed a crime. He was one of two men detained in February 2017 in Goettingen during an investigation of suspected attack plans. Investigators found two weapons, at least one of them a firearm that had been altered to fire live ammunition, ammunition, ISIS flags and a machete. The man deported to Nigeria was banned from entering Germany for life.

**April 10:** The Cologne regional court convicted and sentenced to two years in prison a 16-year-old Syrian refugee for planning to conduct a bombing. He was arrested in September. The teen received bomb-making instructions from a person in Israel with ties to ISIS.

**April 11:** *CNN* reported that three "serious explosives" were remotely detonated against the Borussia Dortmund team bus as the German soccer team was en route to its UEFA Champions League quarterfinals match with AS Monaco. Marc Bartra, 26, a Spanish defender, underwent surgery for injuries to an arm and wrist and was placed on injured reserve for several weeks. A police officer suffered blast trauma. The bus, carrying 40–50 people, including the trainer and medical support staff, had left the team's hotel at 7 p.m. Dortmund police said the explosives "could have been hidden in a hedge near a parking lot" and contained metal pins. American midfielder Christian Pulisic appeared unharmed. Three identically worded confessor letters using jihadi language against the anti–ISIS military coalition were found near the site. The letter demanded that Germany withdraw its Tornado reconnaissance jets from Turkey and close the U.S. Ramstein-Miesenbach Air Base in Germany. The letters warned that "all unbelieving actors, singers, athletes and all prominent personalities in Germany and other crusader nations are on an Islamic State death list." *Die Welt* and *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* reported that police were questioning whether it was genuine or a decoy. *DPA* reported that leftist postings said the attack was to punish the club for allegedly not opposing racism strongly enough. On April 14, Berlin's *Tagesspiegel* daily received a far-right e-mail mentioning Adolf Hitler, railing against "multiculturalism" and deeming the Dortmund attack a "final warning." A suspect was taken into custody; two individuals from the "Islamist spectrum" were the focus of the investigation, according to Frauke Koehler, a spokeswoman for federal prosecutors. Police searched their apartments. Investigators also entered the home of German citizen Abdullah al-Z., 28, from Fröndenberg, where he was sleeping with his child. He had a BVB umbrella from the team hotel. *AP* reported on April 21 that German police near Tübingen arrested Russian-German suspect Sergei W., variant Sergej, 28, who had purchased 15,000 "put" options online from the team's hotel and wanted to lower the team's stock value. He faced charges of attempted murder and setting off an explosion. Dortmund later lost the rescheduled match, 3–2. *AP* reported on August 29 that Dortmund prosecutors charged Sergei W. with 28 counts of attempted murder, two counts of bodily harm and setting off an explosion. On November 10 *DPA* reported that Sergei W.'s trial was scheduled to begin on December 21 to last for 17 sessions through March 2018. German citizen Sergej W., 28, went on trial at the Dortmund State Court on December 21

for bombing the Borussia Dortmund's bus. The 44-page indictment listed 28 counts of attempted murder, two counts of bodily harm and setting off an explosion. The indictment said that the electrician took out a loan to wager that the team's share price would drop.

**April 12:** Authorities arrested Syrian citizen Zoher J., 31, in Bavaria on suspicion of joining the Nusra Front in 2011 with two other men arrested in Germany and then ISIS's secret service in Syria. They believe he tried to recruit refugees in Greek camps for extremist cells in Europe. Prosecutors said that he traveled to Germany in 2015, and traveled back and forth to Greece.

Prosecutors said that Abdul Beset al-O., 26, a detained Iraqi, was suspected of joining ISIS in late 2014 and leading ten fighters in preparing kidnappings, extortions, and killings, but there was no evidence he was involved in the Dortmund attack. Prosecutors added that he went to Turkey in March 2015 and was in contact with ISIS after arriving in Germany in early 2016. On April 13, prosecutors requested an arrest warrant for him. Police believed he lived in Wuppertal.

**April 19:** *DPA* reported that prosecutors charged Adrian Ursache, 42, who was the 1998 Mister Germany, with attempted murder for firing shots at police raiding his home in Reuden in August 2016, wounding an officer, with causing bodily harm, with violating firearms laws and other crimes. He was believed to be part of the Reich Citizens' Movement, which refuses to acknowledge the authority of the post-war Federal Republic of Germany. Ursache was injured during his arrest.

**April 24:** Federal prosecutors charged Afghan citizen Abdullah S.K., 17, over allegations that he joined the Taliban in 2014, underwent military training, and participated in attacks against Afghan police forces, the Afghan army and on a convoy of foreign and local troops. He faced charges of membership in a terrorist organization, attempted murder and violating weapons control laws. Prosecutors said he deserted his unit after learning they planned to rape a boy, and fled Afghanistan in 2015. He was arrested in November 2016.

**April 26:** Police arrested a German army lieutenant, 28, who had posed as a Syrian refugee in Hesse in late 2015, on suspicion he was planning an attack, apparently motivated by anti-foreigner sentiment. He lived "sporadically" at a home for asylum seekers since January 2016. He faced charges of preparing an act of violence. He was officially stationed with the Bundeswehr in France. He allegedly hid a loaded pistol in a restroom at Vienna's airport that was discovered, leading Austrian authorities to take him into temporary custody when he went to retrieve it in February 2017. German authorities arrested him in southern Germany along with a 24-year-old student from the soldier's hometown of Offenbach. Authorities searched 16 buildings in Germany, Austria and France in connection with the investigation, seizing several mobile telephones and other electronic devices. The suspect does not speak Arabic.

**April 27:** Around 4 p.m., police shot in the leg a 27-year-old German man who was threatening an officer outside Berlin's Urban Hospital in the city's Kreuzberg district. The man had a previous weapons offense.

**April 28:** Authorities in Baden Wuerttemberg arrested Syrian citizen Emad A., 23, on suspicion of joining ISIS in 2013 and allegedly fighting for it in Syria.

**May:** *AP* reported on July 5 that Germany's Federal Court of Justice ordered the release of a suspected accomplice of Maximilian T., a soldier accused of plotting to assassinate prominent political figures and blame the attack on refugees. The soldier was arrested in May 2017 on suspicion of preparing an act of violence. The primary suspect in the case was identified as 1st Lt. Franco A., who allegedly posed as a Syrian refugee and on occasion lived at a refugee home while stationed with the German military in France.

**May 4:** Authorities near Leipzig arrested Ahmad A.A., 29, a Syrian suspected of membership in ISIS. Prosecutors said he joined the Nusra Front in Syria, became a military unit's "emir" in the Raqqa region and took part in the conquest of Dibsi Afnan in November 2012, and Tabka in February 2013. He defected to ISIS in 2013.

**May 9:** Authorities in Berlin and Saxony-Anhalt State arrested Abdulmalk A., 30, and Mousa H.A., 30, two Syrians suspected of fighting for extremist groups in Syria. One allegedly administered a strategically important dam in eastern Syria for ISIS. The duo allegedly joined the Nusra Front in 2012 to fight against the Syrian government; Abdulmalk A. commanded a unit in eastern Syria. He was also suspected of committing a war crime when he "captured a sniper of the Syrian regime in spring 2013 near the city of Tabqa, forced him to dig his own grave and cut his throat." Abdulmalk A., originally from Deir el-Zour, allegedly joined ISIS in mid–2013 and was put in charge of the Euphrates dam near Tabqa.

**May 15:** Prosecutors charged a Syrian male refugee with preparing an attack in Denmark. He allegedly had obtained bomb-making materials.

**May 16:** Federal prosecutors charged Pakistani man Muhammad Aafaq I., 28, with membership in a terrorist organization on allegations he joined Lashkar-e-Taiba in 2008 to fight against Indian control of the areas of Jammu and Kashmir. Prosecutors say he trained with LT in Pakistan, learning to use weapons

like assault rifles and rocket launchers before becoming a trainer of new recruits. They say he fled the group in 2011 after reports that it was supported by Pakistani intelligence and was fighting with the Taliban in Afghanistan. It was not clear how he arrived in Germany.

**May 18:** Federal prosecutors charged two German men, Daniel A. and Marcel L., alleged co-founders of the far-right Oldschool Society that planned to bomb a refugee shelter in May 2015, with membership in a terrorist organization, preparing an explosion and violating weapons laws. They were among early members of the group in 2014. The group later grew to about 30 members. Four founding members were detained, foiling the terrorist plan. In March 2016, a Munich court sentenced the foursome to prison terms. Prosecutors said that Daniel A. handled internal discipline and Marcel L. settled disputes within the group.

Prosecutors asked Berlin's criminal court to sentence Syrian man Shaas al-Mohammad, 20, to five years in prison for his alleged membership in ISIS and for planning an attack in Berlin. Prosecutors said he joined ISIS in Syria in 2013 and performed armed guard duties during the siege of Deir el-Zour and its airport in 2013 and 2014 before seeking asylum in Germany in August 2015. They said that he scouted Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, Alexanderplatz and the Reichstag parliament building in apparent preparation for an attack. Records on his phone indicated that he recruited at least one person for ISIS. On May 19, presiding judge Andreas Mueller announced that the court had convicted the Syrian refugee and sentenced him to five years in prison on 150 counts of membership in a foreign terrorist organization and 149 counts of violating weapons laws. The court applied youth sentencing guidelines because most of them happened before the defendant turned 18. Federal prosecutor Gerwin Moldenhauer said this was the first time that a German court convicted a Syrian refugee of crimes committed in Syria. His attorney, Tarig Elobied, said he would appeal the verdict.

**May 19:** *AP* reported on May 23 that on May 19, German authorities arrested Omaid N., 20, an Afghan man accused of being a member of the Taliban and participating in the killing of an Afghan police officer. He was accused of joining the group circa 2013 and recruiting members, then shooting in 2013 a captured policeman who had been tied to a tree and beaten. Authorities said he was then tasked with conducting bombings but instead fled via Iran and Turkey to Europe, arriving in Germany in November 2013.

**May 22:** *DPA* reported that the trial in Duesseldorf state court on war crimes charges began for Syrian man Abu Dhib (Father of the Wolf), 42, for allegedly leading a militia in Syria that was responsible for torture and killings. He was arrested in April 2016 in Muenster after one of his alleged victims from Syria recognized him there and told authorities. Prosecutors said victims included supporters of President Bashar al-Assad, suspected spies, Kurds and "nonbelievers" in Islam. He was represented by attorney Martin Heising.

**May 24:** Police in Berlin raided six sites and detained nine men wanted on suspicion of organized drug dealing, four believed to be "part of the Islamist spectrum willing to use violence." Police confiscated electronic equipment, narcotics and weapons.

**May 25:** Police in Essen arrested a suspected male German Islamic convert, 32, who may have been planning an attack. He had a record of petty crime.

**May 30:** A Brandenburg State police tactical unit in Gerswalde detained a Syrian asylum-seeker, A., 17, in a home for refugees outside Berlin on suspicion that he was planning a suicide attack. He had sent a *WhatsApp* farewell message to family members and told them that he had "joined the jihad." He entered Germany in 2015 as an unaccompanied minor and registered as an asylum-seeker. He lived since 2016 in a home for minor refugees in Gerswalde. He was released the next day. Police confiscated his cell phones and a tablet, but found no evidence he was planning a terrorist attack.

**May 31:** Federal prosecutors announced the arrest in North Rhine-Westphalia State of Syrian man Ahmet A.A., 22, on suspicion of joining the Nusra Front in 2012 together with previously arrested Abdul Jawad A. K. Prosecutors said Ahmet A. A. fought against Syrian government troops, including during fighting in Tabqa, Syria, in 2013.

**June 7:** *DPA* reported that a Syrian man, 27, stabbed to death a Red Cross psychological counselor, 30, at a counseling center for refugees in Saarbruecken following an argument. The suspect was arrested. The victim had worked for the Red Cross since 2014, helping people who had experienced trauma to begin new lives.

**June 8:** *DPA* reported that the Hannover state court convicted Saleh S., 18, a radicalized youth, of attempted murder for throwing two Molotov cocktails filled with diesel fuel into the entrance of a German shopping mall in February 2016 and sentenced him to eight years in prison. The bombs did not ignite, glancing off two people but causing no injuries or damage. The defendant was tried as a juvenile behind closed doors. Saleh is the brother of Safia S., 16, who was convicted in January 2017 of stabbing and wounding a police officer at the behest of ISIS.

Authorities arrested Syrian male Mohammed G., 23, suspected of acting as a liaison between ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency and potential attackers. He was accused of membership in a terrorist organization. He arrived in Germany in September 2015. Prosecu-

tors said he was in contact via social media with a person suspected in an arson attack on a Shi'ite community center in Sweden in October 2016. He allegedly spread ISIS propaganda in online chat groups.

**June 12:** Authorities arrested Syrian brothers Mustafa K., 41, Abdullah K., 39, Sultan K., 44, and Ahmed K., 51, on terrorism charges for allegedly fighting for the Nusra Front in Ras al-Ayn, Syria, starting in late 2012, against Syrian government troops and Kurdish defense forces. Mustafa and Sultan were also charged with war crimes for allegedly forcing civilians from the city and plundering their possessions.

**June 13:** The trial began in Hamburg of three Syrian men, aged 18, 19 and 26, alleged to have been sent to Germany with forged passports by ISIS. They arrived in Germany in late 2015 and were arrested at homes for asylum-seekers in September 2016. They were are charged with membership in a terrorist organization. Two were charged with using forged documents, and the third with attempting to do so.

**June 19:** Police announced a string of morning arsons on railway facilities in Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Dortmund, Leipzig, Bremen and Bad Bevensen. The fires occurred in cable ducts beside the tracks and elsewhere. Interior Ministry spokesman Tobias Plate cited "13 cable fires caused by unconventional explosive and incendiary devices." Far-left activists had threatened attacks ahead of the G-20 summit in Hamburg July 7–8.

**June 23:** *DPA* reported that the trial in the state court in Saarbruecken began of a 38-year-old Syrian man accused of seeking 180,000 euros ($200,000) from someone he thought was a member of the ISIS to finance attacks in Europe. He was charged with attempted participation in murder by contacting a man via *Facebook* in late 2016 who he believed belonged to ISIS and could provide money to carry out attacks. Authorities accused the defendant of planning a bombing or attacks in Germany and neighboring countries.

**June 28:** Spain's Interior Ministry announced that German police arrested a suspected ISIS member in Dortmund who helped make propaganda videos. *DPA* said he was a Spaniard, 28.

**July 13:** The Stuttgart state court convicted a 47-year-old Turkish former leading member of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) of membership in a terrorist organization and sentenced him to three years and three months in prison. The court said he was one of four PKK "sectoral leaders" in Germany and a leading official with the group in the Dortmund and Duesseldorf areas. He arrived in Germany in 2006 and was arrested in February 2016.

**July 18:** A higher regional court in Stuttgart sentenced a 25-year-old Syrian citizen to three years in prison for membership in the Nusra Front in Syria in 2013 and 2014 and for using machine guns in battles at different checkpoints of the terrorist group. He arrived in Germany in 2015.

**July 19:** Prosecutors filed murder charges against German citizen Harry Sarfo, 28, who was accused of participating in the public execution of six captives of ISIS in a square in Palmyra, Syria in June 2015. A Hamburg court convicted him in 2016 of membership in a terrorist organization, sentencing him to three years in prison.

**July 20:** Prosecutors filed terrorism charges against a suspected ISIS representative in Germany—Iraqi citizen Ahmad Abdulaziz Abdullah A., alias Abu Walaa, 33—and four other suspects accused of running a recruitment network. Abu Walaa, the suspected ringleader, was charged with membership in a terrorist organization, terror financing and public incitement to commit crimes. The five, arrested in November 2016, were suspected of recruiting young Muslims in Germany and raising funds to send them to Syria and Iraq to join ISIS. Abu Walaa was the imam at a radical mosque in Hildesheim and organized "Islam seminars" at mosques elsewhere in Germany. The other four suspects were indicted on charges of supporting ISIS in different ways. Turkish citizen Hasan C., 51, and German-Serbian citizen Boban S., 37, were allegedly in charge of teaching Arabic and "radical Islamic content" to recruits. German citizen Mahmoud O., 28, and Cameroonian Ahmed F.Y., 27, were allegedly in charge of helping to organize the recruits' departure to Syria. Prosecutors named eight men who they said left Germany with the support of Abu Walaa to join ISIS in Syria, including:

- Mark and Kevin K. who killed dozens of government soldiers in two separate suicide bombings in 2015.
- Martin L., who was given 2,000 euros ($2,324) from Abu Walaa to pay for his travel to Syria in November 2014. He was allegedly in charge of guarding new ISIS fighters coming from Germany.

**July 26:** The state court in Duesseldorf convicted Islamic radical convert Sven Lau, 36, of supporting a foreign terrorist organization—the Army of Emigrants and Partisans (JAMWA)—and sentenced him to five and one half years in prison. The court said he was a contact for extremists wanting to fight for the group in Syria and, in 2013, helped two men from Germany join it in Syria. Lau traveled to Syria three times in 2013, giving money to JAMWA, which the court said was close to ISIS, and provided three night-vision devices to the organization. In 2014, he tried to establish a "Sharia police" in Wuppertal to enforce a strict interpretation of Islam.

*DPA* reported that authorities searched several

properties in and around Guestrow as part of an investigation regarding three people suspected of preparing an act of violence. Several people were detained.

**July 28:** A radicalized and mentally unstable Palestinian born in the United Arab Emirates stabbed six people with an eight-inch kitchen knife he grabbed from a shelf at a supermarket in the Barmbek district of Hamburg in the afternoon. One German victim, 50, died at the scene. The attacker, 26, fled but was grabbed and held by passers-by until police arrested him. He was slightly injured. Four men, aged 19 to 64, and a woman, 50, suffered stab wounds. A sixth person, 35, was injured while attempting to overcome the suspect. Two witnesses told *DPA* that he shouted "Allahu Akbar." Berlin's *Der Tagesspiegel* reported that he arrived in Germany as a refugee in March 2015 after stops in Spain, Sweden and Norway. His asylum request was rejected in 2016. Mayor Olaf Scholz said authorities had been unable to deport him because he had no papers beyond the UAE birth certificate. He had been cooperating with authorities to acquire new Palestinian ID papers so that he could be deported. Federal prosecutors said Ahmad A. hoped to die as a "martyr." Prosecutors said Ahmad A. wanted to kill as many Christians as possible to avenge injustices against Muslims worldwide, citing tensions over a contested Jerusalem holy site, considering his actions a "contribution to a worldwide jihad." Prosecutors charged him with one count of murder, six counts of attempted murder and six counts of serious bodily harm on November 10, 2017. Prosecutors said he was not affiliated with extremists and acted alone. 17072801

Prosecutors at a Munich state court filed terrorism and murder charges against Afghan citizen Abdol Moghadas S., 20, a suspected member of Afghanistan's Taliban since 2013 whom they accused of participating in an attack in which an American soldier was killed in 2014. Charges included membership in a terrorist organization, murder, attempted murder, and violating weapons laws. Prosecutors said he underwent weapons training, and participated in two attacks on U.S. soldiers and Afghan government troops. In a 2014 attack, a convoy of eight or nine U.S. military vehicles was hit; one American soldier was killed and two more were wounded. S. was arrested in Germany in February 2017. He was accused of transporting to Kabul on several occasions in 2014 and 2015 bombs made by the commander of his local Taliban unit that could be detonated by remote control.

A judge ordered the release of Afghan national Abdullah P., 30, who had been held on suspicion of involvement in two attacks on American and Afghan soldiers between 2004 and 2008. In the attack, 16 soldiers were killed. He was arrested in March 2017 on suspicion of murder and attempted murder.

**July 31:** *AP* reported on August 9 that authorities in Baden-Wuerttemberg State on July 31 arrested Fares A.B., a Syrian man, 29, on allegations of membership in a terrorist organization and committing war crimes for ISIS in Syria. He was brought before a court on August 8. Prosecutors claimed that he joined the Nusra Front in 2013, and moved to ISIS in 2014. ISIS detailed him to a jail, where he allegedly abused three prisoners. He was also accused of beating a pickup truck driver with his assault rifle at a traffic control point, and executing an ISIS prisoner in 2014.

**August 18:** A 31-year-old man was killed and a 25-year-old man was wounded in an afternoon stabbing at a store near the city center in Wuppertal. Police said it was a non-terrorist homicide. Police were searching for three men who ran away from the scene. *WDR* reported that a verbal altercation had preceded the attack.

**August 20:** A smoke bomb went off during an evening event in Berlin for the Kurdish community, slightly injuring nine people who were treated for breathing difficulties. The 400 participants were discussing Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region decision to hold a referendum on independence in September. It was not clear who set off the bomb. 17082002

**August 21:** During the night, arsonists hit two cars used by Social Democratic Party lawmaker Michelle Muentefering in Herne. She chairs the German-Turkish parliamentary group.

**August 28:** Authorities raided the homes and workplaces in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania of two people who apparently opposed the country's policy on migrants and were suspected of drawing up a "kill list" of left-wingers. The duo believed immigration policies would cause an increase in crime and a collapse of public order. The duo had purchased ammunition for their legally acquired weapons.

**August 30:** Abdullah K., 40, a Syrian man being held on suspicion of fighting for an extremist group in Syria, was found hanged in a Hamburg jail cell. He was arrested with three brothers in June 2017 on charges of membership in a terrorist organization for fighting for the Nusra Front in Ras al-Ayn, Syria starting in late 2012.

**September 13:** Authorities arrested Syrian citizen Majed A., 24, in Schleswig-Holstein State on allegations he was a member of several foreign terrorist organizations, including ISIS. He was accused of weapons violations. In 2013, he joined a militia affiliated with the Nusra Front in Syria to fight against the Assad regime. He joined ISIS in 2014 and fought against Kurdish forces in northern Syria before entering Germany in August 2015.

**September 18:** Federal prosecutors announced the arrest in Berlin of Iraqi citizens Raad Riyadh A.A., 31,

and Abbas R., 19, on suspicion of membership in a terrorist organization and war crimes as part of ISIS. Authorities said they joined ISIS in Mosul in June 2014 and participated in the killing of two Shi'ites. Four months later they were involved in the execution of a captured Iraqi military officer. A.A. was also accused of extorting money from businesses to support ISIS and procuring weapons from the Iraqi army and police forces for ISIS. A.A. arrived in Germany in July 2015, and tried to recruit two other Iraqis and convince a third to carry out a suicide attack.

**September 19:** *Deutsche Welle* reported that a court in Munich, Bavaria convicted two former Syrian Salafist Ahrar al-Sham rebels on terror charges. The duo came to Germany as refugees in 2015. Kamel T., 25, was sentenced to four years in prison. Azad R., 23, was given two years' parole due to his age at the time of the crime. They also violated the German laws on the use of weapon in foreign war zones. The duo was sentries for Ahrar al-Sham in Aleppo between August 2013 and April 2014. Azad R. was wounded in the leg, leaving him partially paralyzed. They were arrested at a refugee center in Bavaria in 2016.

**September 26:** The trial in Celle began of Iraqi citizen Ahmad Abdulaziz Abdullah A., alias Abu Walaa, 33, and four other male suspects accused of membership in a terrorist organization, terror financing and public incitement to commit crimes. They were alleged to have recruited young Muslims in Germany and raised funds to send them to Syria and Iraq to join ISIS. Abu Walaa was the imam at a radical mosque in Hildesheim, and organized "Islam seminars" at mosques elsewhere in Germany. The five defendants were arrested in November 2016.

**October 24–25:** In a series of overnight raids in four locations, Berlin police confiscated handguns, rifles and 20 to 30 cases of ammunition and arrested a German man, 40, believed connected to Islamic extremism. The suspect had visited mosques that were of "particular interest" to authorities. The raids followed a June 2017 arrest of a drug dealer.

**October 27:** Berlin authorities arrested two suspected Spanish ETA members who had been using forged identity documents. The men had been sought for years on European arrest warrants. Spain sought a 37-year-old suspect for arson and other attacks on banks and railway lines in 2007. France accused a 29-year-old of participating in a criminal group that aimed to carry out terrorist acts there in 2011–2012.

**October 31:** Police in Schwerin arrested Syrian citizen Yaman A., variant Yamen, 19, for allegedly planning a remote-control bomb attack with TATP high explosives in order to kill a large number of people. They searched the man's apartment and homes of other people whom they said were not suspected of involvement. Prosecutors said he was motivated by extremist Islamist ideology. Prosecutors said, "According to the current investigation, Yaman A. made a decision, at the latest in July 2017, to ignite an explosive in Germany, to kill and injure the biggest possible amount of people," and had procured chemicals and other bomb-making materials. A judge ordered him kept in custody pending a possible indictment on suspicion of preparing a serious act of violence. Yaman A. sought asylum in September 2015. He was granted a three-year residence permit in April 2016.

**November 10:** Shortly after 8 p.m., a man drove a Mercedes into a crowd waiting for a bus in Berlin's Reinickendorf neighborhood, causing no injuries. He initially bumped into a bus and a parked motorcycle, then drove at high speed on the sidewalk at seven people. He U-turned, drove onto the opposite sidewalk, and sped away. Police said a 35-year-old Moroccan man had rented the vehicle, but could not confirm that he was the driver. Police searched his Berlin apartment overnight and took evidence.

**November 13:** Lower Saxony police investigators released new photos and videos of three wanted former members of the disbanded leftist Red Army Faction identified as Daniela Klette, Ernst-Volker Staub and Burkhard Garweg, who had been linked to at least nine robberies in northern Germany after years in hiding.

**November 21:** *CNN* reported during the morning that 500 police led by the Hessian State Criminal Police and the Attorney General of Frankfurt in four cities arrested six Syrians suspected of planning a terrorist attack on a Christmas market. The six had applied for asylum and were suspected of ISIS membership. The suspects reportedly surveilled Christmas markets in Essen and buildings in Berlin.

**November 27:** At 8 p.m., a drunken German man, 56, confronted Andreas Hollstein, 54, the mayor of Altena, in a kebab restaurant over his welcoming stance toward refugees, then slashed Altena's neck with a foot-long knife. Hollstein has four children and belonged to Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative Christian Democratic Union party. Police arrested the attacker. Hollstein thanked the kebab shop owner, Abdullah Demir, who is of Turkish origin, as well as Demir's wife and son, with helping to save his life. *DPA* reported that a man who helped Hollstein was slightly injured.

**December 1:** At 2:30 p.m., police evacuated a popular Christmas market in Potsdam on Friday before destroying a suspicious package containing nails and an unidentified powder in a controlled explosion. No one was injured. The 16 inch by 20 inch package was delivered by a messenger service to a pharmacy on the same street as the Christmas market. Police tweeted that the package included "a cylindrical

object with cables, batteries and nails but at this point no ignition device has been found." *DPA* reported that Brandenburg Interior Minister Karl-Heinz Schroeter, said it also held a large firecracker without a fuse. *Deutsche Welle* reported on December 4 that police believed the incident was an attempt to extort millions from the German-based global shipping company DHL, and was not a terrorist incident. Police found a second suspicious package in Thuringia State's premier's office in Erfurt on December 4. *DW* reported that the perpetrators were in Brandenburg State or neighboring Berlin.

**December 12:** Police in Salzgitter, Lower Saxony State, arrested two 21-year-old Palestinian men who had spread jihadi material and threatened online to commit attacks "in order to create a climate of insecurity and fear."

**December 13:** *Deutsche Welle* reported that right-wing nationalist Franco A., 28, a Bundeswehr lieutenant, was charged with planning to carry out attacks on high-ranking political figures, including the Minister of Justice Heiko Maas, Greens politician Claudia Roth, as well as human rights activists and journalists, and frame asylum seekers for the crimes by posing as a refugee. Specific charges included planning an act of violence and violating weapons and explosives laws. The renewed federal indictment came two weeks after Germany's top criminal court quashed charges for lack of evidence. Prosecutors said A., registered as a Syrian refugee, receiving thousands of euros in asylum seeker benefits. Prosecutors alleged he had stockpiled firearms, more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition and dozens of explosive devices, "at least some" of which had been taken from Bundeswehr stockpiles. He was arrested in April 2017.

**December 14:** Some 130 police officers, including members of a tactical response team, searched nine properties in Berlin and Saxony-Anhalt State linked to suspected ISIS supporters. The raids were part of an investigation against four people, aged 18 to 21, suspected of membership in ISIS or preparing an attack. Prosecutors said two suspects were believed to have left Berlin in November 2016 to join ISIS; a third was suspected to have undergone military training with the group. The three were believed to be in ISIS-held territory. A fourth person was suspected of aiding the others by driving them to the airport. The Berlin daily *B.Z.* reported that the suspects have been linked to Anis Amri, the Tunisian who killed 12 people in a truck attack at a Christmas market in 2016.

**December 17:** Police said that in the early evening, an "apparent pyrotechnical device" went off in the Veddel subway station in Hamburg, damaging a pane of glass but causing no injuries.

**December 19:** Authorities arrested Afghan man Jabar N., 21, for joining the Taliban in Afghanistan in or before 2011, and taking part in at least 30 battles against the Afghan army, police and later against Islamic State gunmen. He told investigators he left Afghanistan via Iran, Turkey and Greece in the summer of 2015. In the summer of 2017, he fled to France where he was arrested and held until he was deported to Germany.

**December 24:** *AP* and *BBC* reported that at 11 p.m., a 58-year-old man was injured when he crashed his car into the headquarters of Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) in Berlin. Police found gasoline canisters and lighter fluid inside the car; he had also left a bag with gas canisters and grill lighters outside the headquarters of Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union. The man sustained a head injury. *DPA* reported that prosecutors said on December 28 that the driver was angry about an annual micro census in which he refused to participate and was fined. Police said the man claimed he was trying to commit suicide with the crash.

**December 27:** Prosecutors charged German citizen Abdelkarim E.B., 32, with membership in a terrorist organization and committing a war crime. They said he left Germany for Syria in 2013, joined ISIS, received weapons training, and fought for them. During fighting near Aleppo in November 2013, his unit beat and kicked a captured fighter from an enemy militia and threatened him with torture. He was accused of filming the scene. He was in custody in a separate case.

## Greece

**January 5:** Athens police recaptured Pola Roupa, 48, a convicted far-left Revolutionary Struggle anarchist wanted for more than four years after she absconded from Korydallos Prison in western Athens during her trial on domestic terrorism charges of participating in the anarchist group. Police also detained a Greek woman, 25, in whose apartment Roupa was found. Roupa was convicted in absentia. Her pre-trial detention had exceeded the maximum 18-month limit, and she was freed on condition of regularly appearing at her local police station. She, fellow terrorism suspect Nikos Maziotis, and their son vanished in 2012. Maziotis was recaptured in 2014 after a shoot-out with police in central Athens. Roupa and Maziotis on January 6 began a hunger strike over Greek authorities' treatment of their 6-year-old son. Roupa's sister and mother filed a request for temporary custody.

**January 10:** In the early morning, a gunman fired on a police bus outside the center-left opposition Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) offices in Athens, hitting a police officer in the chest and leg

with shrapnel. Anarchists were suspected. No group claimed credit. The next day, police said the gun had been used in earlier attacks claimed by the domestic far-left Organization for Revolutionary Self-Defense. Bullet casings and fragments matched an assault rifle used in attacks on the PASOK offices in 2014 and on the Mexican embassy in 2016.

**February 19:** Masked attackers threw five Molotov cocktails at the Athens headquarters of Greece's left-wing governing Syriza party. Police detained 35 suspects. A police officer was injured and a car was burned.

**February 27:** A nighttime arson attack against the French Institute and French archaeological school in Athens caused minor damage but no injuries. A car parked on grounds between the two was torched in the early morning. The fire spread to a second car. Attackers smashed windows in the institute and attempted to set fire inside. No one claimed credit. 17022701

**March 20:** Police neutralized eight parcel bombs addressed to European Union finance officials and businesses in various European countries, at a postal sorting office near Athens. No one was hurt. Police said the parcels were falsely labeled as being sent from academic institutions.

**April 19:** Following an anonymous warning call to a private Greek TV station, a bomb in a bag exploded outside a bank in central Athens in the night, causing minor damage to the building but no injuries. On May 30 the leftist Popular Fighters Group claimed credit for bombing an Athens bank branch because it housed bad loan management services.

**May 25:** An explosion inside a Mercedes in central Athens wounded Lucas Papademos, 69, who served as prime minister for six months in 2011–2012. Two aides in the car were also wounded. The media reported that Papademos had opened a parcel bomb inside the car. Papademos was a former deputy governor of the European Central Bank. The nihilist anarchist Conspiracy of Cells of Fire was suspected. Papademos was in intensive care with wounds in his right thigh and upper body. *UPI* reported that a man, 29, was arrested while leaving an apartment block near central Athens on October 28, 2017. He was held for several letter bombings, including the Papademos attack and letter bombs sent in March 2017 to Germany's former finance minister, Wolfgang Schaeuble, and to the Paris offices of the International Monetary Fund. In March 2017, packages addressed to eight other European officials and institutions were intercepted in Athens. The letter bombs contained gunpowder. The suspect was carrying several bags with two pistols, 300 bullet cartridges, several detonators, cables, timers and gunpowder, hashish, and eight fake identity cards. Police believed he was a member of Conspiracy Cells of Fire. Police were searching for other suspects. The man was charged with attempted murder, joining a terrorist group, assembling and posting a letter bomb to Papademos with the intention of killing him, possession of firearms and explosives in order to commit terrorist acts and supply terrorist groups, forgery, theft and drug possession.

**October 12:** During the evening, prominent Greek lawyer Michalis Zafiropoulos, 52, son of late conservative lawmaker and Athens Bar Association head Epaminondas Zafiropoulos, who died in 2006, was shot and killed at his office in central Athens.

**October 19:** Police in Alexandroupolis arrested a male Syrian refugee, 32, on terrorism-related charges following a review of his asylum application. He was a suspected ISIS fighter while in Syria. He traveled to a Greek island from Turkey in 2016 and lived in Thessaloniki with his wife and two children.

**October 26:** Before dawn, ten masked youths attacked the northern Athens Pefki district police station with firebombs and escaped without causing any injury. Cars parked outside were damaged. No arrests were made. No group claimed responsibility, although domestic anarchists were suspected.

**November 3:** Racists were suspected of throwing stones through the window of the Athens home of an Afghan refugee family whose 11-year-old son was picked to carry the Greek flag at a school parade remembering the country's entry into World War II. The attack came before dawn. The boy ended up instead carrying a sign with the name of his primary school.

**November 6:** Gunmen fired at the central offices of the Socialist PASOK party in downtown Athens, causing no injuries among the riot police guards stationed outside. The building was often targeted by anarchists who threw petrol bombs. Several dozen people were in the offices.

**November 9:** Authorities granted a 48-hour furlough from Athens's Korydallos prison for convicted gunman Dimitris Koufodinas, alias Loukas, 59, who once was Greece's most-wanted terrorist. He was serving a life sentence for participating in 11 of the 23 assassinations, plus armed robberies and bombings, attributed to the now-defunct terrorist group November 17. His victims include the brother-in-law of the current conservative Greek opposition leader, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, who described the furlough as "inconceivable." The group had attacked military officials and diplomats from the U.S., UK, and Turkey, along with prominent Greek businessmen and politicians. Police said Koufodinas was a beekeeper and math teacher, but also 17N's lead gunman, planner, recruiter and cashier. His 2014 autobiography detailed

attacks. On November 11, Koufodinas returned to prison, 90 minutes ahead of his noon deadline, accompanied by his wife and son.

**November 28:** Counterterrorism police in the central Athens areas of Neos Kosmos and Kallithea detained nine Turks, including eight men and a woman, in an investigation connected with Turkish leftist groups. The group was suspected of links with the Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C), listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the United States and the European Union.

**December 21:** Supermarkets in Athens and Thessaloniki withdrew food and beverages, including certain types of Coca-Cola, a Greek milk brand and packages of meat, from their shelves during the week after the Blackgreen Arsonists threatened to contaminate them with corrosive hydrochloric acid as part of an environmentally influenced protest of Christmas consumerism, which features "consumer garbage with beautiful and glittering wrappings." The group included photos of its members injecting something into the products.

During Christmas 2016, the Green Nemesis group made a similar threat against products of Coca-Cola, Nestlé and Unilever.

**December 22:** *AFP* and *AP* reported that a bomb hidden in a backpack exploded at 1:25 a.m. outside an appeals court complex in Athens, causing damage but no injuries. Warning phone calls were made to the offices of a daily newspaper and news website. Hours earlier, parliament imposed penalties against demonstrators who gather at the court to disrupt weekly auctions of foreclosed homes. No group claimed credit. Two men were seen fleeing in a small van after they fired at a guard. Police found a torched van a few blocks away and recovered a bullet casing near the courthouse. Police suspected the far-left Popular Fighters Squad. On December 27, the Popular Fighters Group said that it was protesting bias by Greek judges in favor of the rich and power in several recent high-profile cases, and that courts failed to uphold legal challenges against painful income cuts and tax hikes implemented under the country's bailout program.

# Hungary

**June 15:** An appeals court in Szeged annulled the conviction and ordered a retrial in the case of Ahmed Hamed, a Syrian man sentenced in November 2016 to ten years in prison for entering Hungary illegally and committing an "act of terror" by throwing rocks at police during a September 16, 2015, Hungary/Serbia border riot. Hamed had lived in Cyprus for a decade.

# Ireland

**March 2:** Police arrested suspected IRA splinter group member Damien McLaughlin, 40, in northwest County Donegal during the night, three months after he disappeared from his Belfast home. The next day, he was arraigned in a Dublin court to face extradition back to Northern Ireland, where he jumped bail while awaiting trial in connection with the November 2012 IRA killing of Northern Ireland prison guard David Black. McLaughlin had been freed on bail with an electronic tracking tag, but a Belfast judge later let him to stop wearing it.

# Italy

**January 1:** *ANSA* reported that at 5 a.m., a police patrol in Florence found a suspicious package containing a timer and wires outside a closed bookshop with links to a neo-fascist activist group, CasaPound. A bomb squad officer lost an eye and had to have a hand amputated when the package exploded.

**January 2:** Melkite Greek Catholic archbishop Monsignor Hilarion Capucci, 94, who was in Jerusalem when Israel convicted him in 1974 of using his diplomatic status to smuggle arms to Palestinian militants in the occupied West Bank, died in Rome. He served two years of a twelve-year sentence in an Israeli prison. He had lived in Aleppo, Syria.

**January 5:** Italy expelled Marouan Mathlouthi, 26, a Tunisian man accused of religious extremism and befriending a jailed would-be foreign fighter who was arrested in 2015 on terrorism-related charges because of alleged plans to join the jihad in Iraq and Syria. Mathlouthi had lived in Italy since he was an infant and was married to an Italian. He had jihadist propaganda on him and had written on his *Facebook* page, "I don't know if I should be good or stage a massacre, I have to think about it."

**January 10:** Police in Rome issued a new arrest warrant for inmate Saber Hmidi, 34, who was serving another sentence, for trying to radicalize fellow Muslims in Italian prisons. Police found bullets and a gun in his house. The Tunisian man allegedly was linked to Ansar al-Sharia and ISIS. Mauro Fabozzi, chief of Rome's anti-terrorism police unit, said Saber Hmidi carried out "aggression" toward Catholic inmates. Hmidi was arrested in 2014 after pointing a gun at a police officer during a traffic stop in Italy. He was sentenced to three years and eight months.

**January 13:** The Interior Ministry announced the expulsion of a Tunisian, 32, living in Ancona, who praised ISIS on *Facebook* and was in contact with a Tunisian member of ISIS with links to Anis Amri, who attacked a Christmas market in Berlin with a truck on December 19, 2016. The expelled Tunisian was suspected of robberies in Italy. He was detained on December 24, 2016, and flown to Tunis on January 13, 2017.

**February 14:** A Milan court convicted Moroccan-born Italian citizen Abderrahim Moutaharrik, and

his wife, Salma Bencharki, and sentenced them to six years and five years in jail, respectively, on charges of international terrorism in connection with an IS plot to carry out attacks in Rome during the Holy Year in 2016. Prosecutors said ISIS had ordered him to conduct attacks in Italy, especially Rome, in 2016. The couple was arrested in April 2016. The court also withdrew the couple's parental rights. They had planned to travel to ISIS territory with their two small children.

**March 30:** In an early morning raid in Venice, police arrested three Kosovo citizens—Fisnik Bekaj, Dake Haziraj and Arjan Babaj—after a phone intercept found one suggesting the bombing of the 16th-century Rialto Bridge while others praised the London attack. A minor was also detained. A search of their apartment found videos of jihadis explaining how to conduct knife attacks. One phone intercept recorded, "You'll go straight to paradise because of all the infidels in Venice. Put a bomb on the Rialto." The four had residency permits to live in Italy. Police searched 12 sites in Venice's center, Mestre and Treviso.

**April 29:** *ANSA* reported that police in La Spezia in Liguria detained six suspected neo–Nazis accused of inciting racial and ethnic discrimination and violence. The Carabinieri seized neo–Nazi and neo–Fascist propaganda, knives and explosive-making instructions from a camper hidden in the woods. Police wiretaps picked up conversations calling for violence against foreigners. The detainees were believed to have painted swastikas on a regional office of the center-left Democratic Party and to have torched bins where the Caritas charity collects used clothing for the needy.

**May 18:** During the night, Italian citizen Tommaso Ben Yousef Hosni, 20, allegedly pulled out two knives and attacked and injured two soldiers and a police officer when they asked to see identification at Milan's train station. Investigators were exploring Hosni's social media interactions to determine if he had ties to jihadis. *ANSA* reported that a *Facebook* page believed to be Hosni's praises the ISIS in several posts. Police said Hosni has an Italian mother and Tunisian father and had lived in Tunisia until 2015. He was known to hang around Milan's train station, where he was arrested on a drug charge in November 2016.

**June 20:** Sicilian authorities said they did not believe that terrorism was involved when a young Sudanese passenger grabbed the steering wheel of a bus and tried to drive the vehicle off the road. Palermo chief prosecutor Francesco Lo Voi said personal motives were involved. The bus was en route from Trapani to Palermo. Off-duty military officers on board the bus prevented the man from doing any harm.

**July 5:** *AP* reported on July 8 that on July 5 authorities in Bari arrested Chechen Eli Bombataliev, 38, who was accused of fighting with ISIS in Syria and participating in a deadly attack on foreign and Russian journalists in Chechnya. He had lived in Foggia since 2012. He was preparing to go to Belgium. Police believed that he was in contact with the ISIS network based in Belgium. Wiretaps indicated that he told his Russian wife, 49, who was living illegally in Italy, that he was prepared to carry out an attack if ordered. "If tomorrow they call to offer myself up, I must do it." Authorities expelled his wife and two Albanian brothers in their 20s who were legal residents. Prosecutors said Bombataliev was trying to get his wife to become a suicide bomber. She countered that she was his second wife and the first wife should "sacrifice herself first." He claimed that the first wife "is already ready." Prosecutors said Bombataliev participated in an attack on journalists in Grozny, Chechnya in December 2014 that left 19 dead and that he fought in Syria in 2014 and 2015.

**November 3:** Authorities in Calabria seized 24 million tablets of tramadol, an opioid painkiller, that were en route from India to Libya and which international narcotics experts suspect ISIS had been selling and giving its fighters.

**November 14:** Authorities announced that they believed that Venetian plumber Fabrizio Pozzobon, 51, who told his friends and family a few days before Christmas 2016 that he was going on a short vacation, entered Syria via Turkey and had joined ISIS or another jihadi group. Making the story odder was that Pozzobon had been an activist and elected official for a xenophobic far-right party that often attacked Muslims. In 2010, he ran for the City Council in his hometown of Castelfranco Veneto as a candidate of the Northern League, a far-right party that campaigns against the presence of Muslim immigrants in Italy and opposes the construction of mosques on Italian soil. He joined the council in 2014, serving for a year.

**December 9:** An Italian man, 27, crashed his car into a pedestrian-only square near the Sondrio Christmas market in northern Italy, seriously injuring a woman near an outdoor skating rink. *ANSA* said he was being investigated for aiming to kill. He slightly injured two other strollers. He said that he "should have killed more" people.

# Kosovo

**April 14:** The online *Gazeta Express* reported that the Security Council announced that authorities found plans to attack senior officials and political leaders. The SC said the suspects were "working for groups and services of some countries … aiming at destabilizing Kosovo." One Albanian was arrested in Peja, 50 miles west of Pristina, "on suspicion that he had made calls for a terror attack on the eve of Easter festivities."

**October 27:** *KTV* reported that authorities arrested Turkish man Ugur Tuksoy, who was working for a non-governmental foundation in Kosovo, in Prizren, western Kosovo, under an international arrest warrant issued by Turkey, which accused him of participating in a failed 2016 coup attempt there. A Kosovo court said he would be held for up to 40 days while authorities decided whether he should be extradited to Ankara to face charges of belonging to a terror group.

# Macedonia

**June 1:** Police arrested Lj. S., 60, a man who fired two shots at close range at outgoing Minister of Health Nikola Todorov on the steps outside the ministry building during the handover to his successor. No one was injured. Private *24 TV* reported that S. was the grandfather of a nine-year-old girl who died two years earlier from scoliosis complications. The family had received health ministry approval for surgery abroad on the day she died.

# Malta

**October 16:** A Semtex bomb exploded in the rented Peugeot of Maltese investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, 53, after she had driven away from her home in Mosta. She had exposed Malta's links to offshore tax havens through the leaked Panama Papers. She had written in 2016 that Prime Minister Joseph Muscat's wife, Michelle, the country's energy minister and the government's chief-of-staff had offshore holdings in Panama to receive money from Azerbaijan. Caruana Galizia filed a police report two weeks earlier saying she was receiving threats. She had written a twice-weekly column for the *Malta Independent* since 1996 and the blog *Running Commentary*. She had been sued for libel for some of her blog postings.

*Reuters, UPI* and *NBC News* reported on December 4 that in the morning, police arrested ten Maltese nationals in connection with the car bomb murder. Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said that most of those in custody had criminal records. On December 5 a Maltese court charged three men with the murder; they were represented by a court-appointed lawyer. Seven other Maltese men were released on bail. On December 21 a magistrate ruled that evidence, including mobile data and DNA data, presented during a preliminary hearing supported murder charges against brothers Alfred and George Degiorgio and Vincent Muscat.

# Moldova

**February 15:** The Intelligence and Security Service said it had broken up a suspected extremist Islamic group that was spreading propaganda online and whose members had illegal weapons. Agents searched the homes of several Moldovans in Soroca and found pistols, semi-automatic rifles and other weapons. The suspects faced seven years in prison.

**April 7:** *AP* reported on April 8 that authorities in Moldova and the Ukraine detained 17 people suspected of planning to kill one of Moldova's most powerful politicians. Senior Moldovan organized crime prosecutor Vitalie Busuioc said authorities knew of orders from two people to assassinate Vladimir Plahotniuc, an influential businessman and chairman of Moldova's Democratic Party. Police said the suspects had received $100,000 and were due to receive a total of $200,000. Authorities detained eight people in Moldova and nine in the Ukraine. Police seized grenade launchers, two pistols, phones, wigs and moustaches.

# Netherlands

**January 13:** Bulgaria deported to the Netherlands a Dutch woman, 33, who was suspected of attempting to travel to Syria to join ISIS. Dutch military police detained her upon arrival at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. Bulgaria had arrested her in 2016 on a European warrant issued by the Netherlands.

**February 22:** The Hague District Court convicted a man, 23, who twice was apprehended in Turkey while trying to join a jihadi group in Syria and sentenced him to 31 months for terrorism offenses. He flew to Turkey in December 2014, was caught on the Syrian border, and deported to the Netherlands, where he was jailed but released in May 2015. He disappeared nine months later. He was stopped at the Syrian border in May 2016.

**April 26:** The National Prosecution Office said police in Sint-Oedenrode arrested a Dutch man with a Somali background, 22, on suspicion of "involvement with a terror organization" (al-Shabaab) based on information from the Netherlands' General Intelligence and Security Service.

**May 17:** *RTL News* quoted Dutch prosecutors as saying that a man with a 2015 conviction for attempting to travel to Syria to join ISIS was briefly detained the previous week at a military air base where he was working in a construction team and seen taking photos at the air base. He was released without charge two days later.

**June 16:** Eindhoven court spokeswoman Ilse Westenenk said a Dutch investigating judge ordered the release of a radicalized man, 29, who was suspected by prosecutors of "possible involvement in making preparations for a terrorist crime." The man was detained a week earlier outside the PSV Eindhoven soccer stadium where thousands of fans were attending a pop concert by Dutch singer Guus Meeuwis. The man did not have a ticket for the concert and was making video recordings.

**June 20:** Prosecutors said that during the previous week, authorities arrested a man, 18, in Utrecht on suspicion of "involvement in a terrorist crime" by spreading ISIS propaganda and possibly teaching others how to make explosives. An investigating judge ordered him detained for two weeks while investigations continued. Prosecutors said the teen was arrested based on information from a Dutch intelligence agency.

**August 23:** *CNN* and *UPI* reported that authorities cancelled a concert by the Los Angeles–like American rock band Allah-Las in Rotterdam's Maassilo after stopping a van with Spanish plates that was carrying five gas cylinders inside an area cordoned off by police. Police stopped the van at 9:30 p.m. A Spanish mechanic detained while driving, apparently drunk, a white van containing a number of gas canisters close to the concert venue was to be questioned once he sobered up. He was released without charges.

The next morning, Dutch police in Zevenbergen, in Brabant province, south of Rotterdam, arrested a man, 22, suspected of preparing a "terrorist attack" at the concert at a converted grain silo in the heart of the port city. On August 30, an investigative judge in Rotterdam District Court extended his detention by two weeks; he was suspected of "involvement in terrorist crimes."

**September 13:** Justice Minister Stef Blok revoked the Dutch citizenship of four dual national Dutch-Moroccans who allegedly traveled to Syria to join a terrorist organization. They were declared "undesirable aliens" and cannot legally return to the Netherlands or to any other country in the European Union's Schengen passport-free travel zone.

**November 2:** The Rotterdam District Court sentenced a man, 31, to four years imprisonment for plotting a terror attack after police found an automatic rifle, bomb-making instructions, ammunition, ISIS propaganda, and fireworks at his home. He man was making preparations for an attack, but had not settled on a specific target at the time of his arrest late in 2016. The verdict said he "contributed to international terrorism and wanted to strike fear into the Dutch population." Prosecutors had sought an eight-year prison term.

**November 13:** Laura Hansen, 22, a Dutch woman who traveled with her husband and two young children to ISIS-controlled territory in Syria and Iraq in September 2015 to support her family while her husband fought with ISIS, was convicted in a Rotterdam court of supporting terrorist acts and sentenced to two years in prison, 13 months suspended. She was acquitted of ISIS membership. In July 2016, she surrendered to Kurdish Peshmerga fighters near Mosul, Iraq, saying she had been trying to escape the "hell" she was living in "all the time." As she had spent a year in pretrial detention, she would serve no jail time.

# Northern Ireland

**January 22:** The Police Service of Northern Ireland said that a police officer has been shot in the arm in Belfast in a drive-by attack at a gas station. There was no claim of responsibility.

**February 21:** Police at a home in Catholic west Belfast found five pipe bombs and ammunition belonging to the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army, an Irish Republican Army splinter group that was supposed to have disarmed in support of the region's peace process.

**February 22:** The Police Service of Northern Ireland announced that a booby-trap bomb attached to a car in a driveway went off outside the home of a Northern Ireland policeman in Londonderry, causing no injuries. The bomb dropped from the car as the officer drove to work. It exploded while bomb techs tried to dismantle it with a remote-controlled robot. An IRA splinter was suspected.

**March 20:** Former senior IRA leader James Martin Pacelli McGuinness, 66, who negotiated the Good Friday Agreement of April 1998 peace treaty and became a leader of Sinn Fein, died in Derry of amyloidosis. On January 9 he resigned as deputy first minister, one of Northern Ireland's two top political positions, which he had been since 2007.

**June 23:** Gary Haggarty, a former paramilitary commander who turned police informer, pleaded guilty in Belfast Crown Court to 200 terrorist offenses, including five murders; five attempted murders; 23 counts of conspiracy to murder; directing terrorism; and membership of a banned organization in incidents occurring from 1991 to 2007. He also pleaded guilty to 304 minor offenses. He provided evidence against 14 former colleagues in the Protestant-based Ulster Volunteer Force and two of his former police handlers. He was first charged with one murder in 2009.

**November 18:** *Reuters* reported that Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams announced that he was stepping down after 34 years.

# Norway

**April 4:** The Oslo District Court sentenced Norwegian citizen Arslan Maroof, alias Ubaydullah, 31, to nine years in prison for recruiting at least two others to join ISIS in Syria. He had been a leader of the local Prophet's Ummah, and was acquitted earlier of multiple counts of encouraging others to commit murder and acts of terrorism.

The court also sentenced Simen Johan Andreassen to 34 months for violating Norwegian laws by intending to join ISIS.

Both were arrested on June 8, 2015, in Sweden.

**April 8:** During the night, police in Oslo defused a "bomb like" device near the Groenland subway station on a busy commercial street. A 17-year-old male asylum-seeker from Russia was arrested on suspicion of handling explosives. He arrived in Norway with his family in 2010, lived in Oslo, and had been a member of jihadi circles. He was represented by attorney Aase Karine Sigmond.

**August 31:** *NTB* reported that a man, 33, was charged with fighting alongside ISIS in Syria. He faced ten years in prison. He traveled to Syria in November 2014 and left on April 30, 2016, for Turkey, where he was arrested and extradited to Norway. The trial was scheduled to begin in Oslo on October 2, 2017.

# Poland

**March 2:** The national prosecutor's office asked the Internal Security Agency to investigate whether Polish national Jakub Jakus, 24, alias Abu Khattab al-Polandi, from Sandomierz, who was suspected of fighting with IIS in Syria, had been killed. He had been investigated in Poland for "crimes of a terrorist nature" and illegal firearms possession. An international arrest warrant was issued for him in 2016.

**June 28:** Authorities stopped at Mogilno station a train en route from Warsaw to Berlin after receiving a bomb threat in the evening.

**August 24:** Prosecutors said knife-wielding Israeli citizen Ibrahim H. slightly hurt a police officer's face in Warsaw. Prosecutors charged the Israeli with assaulting a police officer and exposing an officer to the threat of loss of life or serious harm. Residents had called police to note his strange behavior hours before a concert by U.S. band Allah-Las.

# Portugal

**March 23:** Portuguese investigators said they would question a Moroccan man, 63, extradited from Germany who was suspected of providing financing and recruitment assistance to ISIS in Portugal. Portuguese police said he was one of two suspects being investigated since 2015 for links to international terrorism. He had lived in Aveiro.

# Romania

**June 29:** Prosecutors in Pitesti detained a Romanian man, Ibrahim, 39, on suspicion that he was linked to a group involved in the November 2015 Paris Bataclan concert hall attack. He earlier lived in an unidentified European Union country where he adopted a radical form of Islam. He visited a Romanian military base in 2015, sending information to a jihadi group in an EU country. He said he wanted to join an attack on the base. He faced 20 years in prison.

**July 8:** Border guards arrested Nalan Oral, a Brussels-based Turkish activist with the Socialist Women's Union who has political refugee status in Belgium, when she arrived in the country. Defense attorney Alin Speriusi-Vlad said she was detained because her name appeared on an Interpol list. On July 17, a Romanian court in Timisoara ruled that Oral, who was wanted in Turkey for alleged links to Kurdish militants, must remain in custody until her extradition hearing on July 31. The court also ruled against consulting the European Court of Justice to clarify laws regarding refugee status. Turkey's Ambassador to Romania, Osman Koray Ertas, said Oral was wanted on links to "a left-wing terrorist group." On July 25 the Romanian Supreme Court upheld a Timisoara court's decision to release her from custody. Her name had since been removed from the Interpol list. She was represented by attorney Bogdan Burdea.

# Russia

**January 21:** The Interior Ministry said its forces surrounded a terrorist safehouse in Vperyod village, Kizlyar region, Dagestan Province in the North Caucasus, then killed two suspects in a gun battle after they refused to surrender.

**January 29:** Spokesman Ruslan Ibragimgadzhiev for the Russian Interior Ministry's branch in Dagestan Province said security forces killed three suspected terrorists after they surrounded a house in Khasavyurt where the suspects were hiding. The terrorists refused to surrender.

**March 5:** Antiterrorist police raided an IS sleeper cell in Derbent, Dagestan near the border with Azerbaijan, killing one suspect and arresting three others. Police killed a terrorist after blockading his house and he fired on them. They arrested the trio at other locations.

**March 24:** Gunmen, including two with suicide belts, tried to break into a National Guard base in Chechnya in the early morning fog. During the ensuing firefight, six gunmen and six soldiers were killed.

**April 3:** At 2:20 p.m., a bomb hit a subway train from Sennaya Ploshchad passing through a tunnel in St. Petersburg, killing 16 and hospitalizing 60. Four people were in critical condition. Train driver Alexander Kavernin, 50, went to the next station, the Technological Institute, a move which helped with evacuation. *Interfax* reported that two hours later, police found a second larger bomb hidden in a fire extinguisher filled with shrapnel and 2.2 pounds of explosives in Ploshchad Vosstaniya (Vosstaniya Square), one of St. Petersburg's busiest subway stations. Police were searching for two suspects; a security camera caught a person who could be responsible. A police source said the suspect might have left the explosive device in a bag.

On April 4, police said the suicide bomber was Akbardzhon Dzhalilov, 22, a Muslim man who held Russian citizenship but came from Osh, Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyz and Russian media said he left Kyrgyzstan for St. Petersburg with his family in 2011. Dzhalilov's father, a Russian citizen, worked at an auto body shop. Dzhalilov worked as a sushi chef in St. Petersburg and studied martial arts at a local gym. Neighbors said that he was from a family of ethnic Uzbeks. Forensic experts found Dzhalilov's DNA on a bag containing a bomb that was found and deactivated at another St. Petersburg subway station. *Tass* reported that investigators were looking into information that he flew to Turkey in November 2015 and possibly trained with ISIS. On April 13, a Turkish official said the suspect had entered Turkey in November 2015 on a tourist visa and was deported to Russia in December 2016 for violating Turkey's visa laws. He was fined and barred from re-entering Turkey for 120 days.

Russian President Putin was meeting in St. Petersburg with Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko when the blast occurred.

Among the dead were

- seven people born since 1990; the youngest was born in 2000.
- Dilbara Aliyeva, 21, a psychology student from Azerbaijan who was writing her dissertation on motivation and sport. Her brother is a professional soccer player.
- Maxim Aryshev, 20, a straight–A student from Kazakhstan at the St. Petersburg State Economic University.
- Irina Medyantseva, 50, who sewed handmade dolls, named some Petersburg Angel and Yellow Bunny, and sold them online for several hundred dollars each. Her body shielded Alyona, 28, her daughter, from the explosion, saving her life.

On April 5, Russian authorities arrested seven Central Asian migrants suspected of being recruiters for ISIS and al-Qaeda's al-Nusra Front Syrian branch, but found no evidence of involvement in the subway attack. The next day, Russian security agents arrested three Central Asians suspected of having links to the bomber and deactivated a bomb in their apartment. Investigative Committee agents later said six people were arrested in St. Petersburg and two in Moscow.

*AP* reported on April 17 that the Federal Security Service (FSB) arrested in Odintsovo a suspected organizer of the bombing. He was armed with a pistol and was of Central Asian origin.

*AP* reported on May 8 that Russian counterintelligence agents outside Moscow arrested Abror Azimov, "one of the organizers" of the April 3 bombing. They later arrested his older brother, Akram, seizing a grenade from a bag he carried. The brothers were among 20 suspects detained. Abror appeared in a Moscow district court on April 18. By April 6, Russian investigators said they had arrested eight possible accomplices.

A Kyrgyz news site reported that Sirozhiddin Mukhtarov, alias Abu Salah al-Uzbeki, a prominent field commander in Syria, ordered the St. Petersburg bombing. He was believed to have been recruiting fighters from his native region since 2013. The SITE Intelligence Group reported that the Imam Shamil Battalion claimed responsibility for the attack.

On June 26 the FSB said that terrorists used *Telegram* to plan the attack on the St. Petersburg metro. The FSB announced, "During the investigation into the terrorist attack of April 3 in St. Petersburg's metro, FSB received reliable information that the suicide bomber, his allies and his foreign curator used the *Telegram* messenger to conceal their criminal plot during all the stages of preparation for the terrorist attack." 17040301

**April 4:** Emergency officials closed four subway stations, including St. Petersburg's Dostoyevskaya and Sennaya Square stations, following bomb threats.

Two gunmen shot to death two traffic police officers at point-blank range and seized their weapons. On April 6, the National Guard in Astrakhan shot to death four suspects in the killings after the suspects fired on officers, three of whom were wounded.

**April 19:** FSB agents killed two men from Central Asia suspected of planning to carry out terrorist attacks in Russia. The duo resisted arrest in a home in the Vladimir region east of Moscow. FSB said they were in contact with recruiters from international terrorist organizations, had shown an interest in making bombs and expressed a readiness to carry out attacks in Russia. An FSB video showed the duo, one with a Kalashnikov automatic rifle lying next to him, and components for making explosives.

**April 21:** A gunman got past metal detectors and entered the reception area of the FSB's office in Khabarovsk, shooting to death an FSB officer and a visitor and injuring another person before he was shot to death. The FSB said the man was a local resident, aged between 17 and 18, who belonged to a neo–Nazi gang.

The National Anti-Terrorism Committee announced that police killed the leader of an Islamic State "sleeper cell" and one of the cell's members in a nighttime shoot-out in the Stavropol region that broke out when police tried to stop an automobile and its occupants opened fire. Police found bomb-making components in the car and ISIS literature at a suspect's residence.

**April 26:** The FSB arrested two suspected ISIS supporters in an apartment in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk on the

Pacific island of Sakhalin who it said were planning a terror attack. Authorities found a homemade explosive device and ISIS propaganda literature. One suspect was a Russian citizen and the other was from one of the former Soviet republics in Central Asia.

The domestic security agency arrested twelve people of Central Asian descent in Kaliningrad for suspected involvement with Islamic Jihad (Jamaat Mujahedeen).

**May 24:** The Investigative Committee in the Krasnoyarsk region said that *Ton-M* newspaper editor Dmitry Popkov, 42, was found dead with gunshot wounds outside his home in Minusinsk, Siberia, during the night. He founded the paper in 2014. It had criticized local authorities and functionaries from the Kremlin-backed United Russia party. Popkov held a brief tenure at the Minusinsk city council before he was ousted.

**May 25:** The Federal Security Service (FSB) arrested four Islamic State members who had been preparing to bomb Moscow's transport network, working under directions from ISIS in Syria. The suspects were planning to join ISIS in Syria afterwards. The group included citizens of Russia and ex–Soviet Central Asian nations.

**June 25:** Ruslan Ibragimgadzhiev, a Russian Interior Ministry spokesman in Dagestan Province, said two gunmen shot at police when they were stopped in Kasavyurt in the North Caucasus region. Police returned fire, killing the duo.

**August 14:** The FSB announced it had arrested four people suspected of plotting attacks. The plot was led by two Soviet-born militants fighting for ISIS in Syria. Two would-be suicide bombers were to blow themselves up on Moscow's transit system and in a shop. The FSB found a bomb-making lab outside Moscow. The FSB said one detainee was a Russian national and three others were from Central Asia.

**August 19:** ISIS claimed credit when in the morning, a man with a knife and wearing a balaclava stabbed and wounded seven people, four seriously, before police shot and killed him on a central street in Surgut in Siberia. Police fired warning shots. ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency said he was "an Islamic State soldier." Russia's Investigative Committee said he was a resident born in 1994 and had "possible psychiatric disorders." *AFP* reported that investigators suggested it was likely not a terrorist attack. Russian television reported that the victims were aged between 27 and 77 and included two women.

**August 28:** National Anti-terrorism Committee spokesman Alexander Polyakov said that two suspected Chechen gunmen holed up in a building in Khasavyurt near Chechnya in Dagestan Province. They refused to surrender and died in a clash that also killed two law enforcement agents. The duo armed with knives had attacked three police officers in Kaspiysk. The men killed one of the officers and wounded another. The third officer shot the terrorists to death. ISIS said they were "soldiers of the Islamic State." Police in Kaspiysk found an ISIS flag at the site of the attack.

**August 31:** The Federal Security Service detained two suspects from ex–Soviet Central Asia accused of plotting attacks on civilians in Moscow on behalf of ISIS. The FSB said they planned to conduct the attacks on the beginning of the school year in Russia. One suspect planned to carry out a suicide bombing. The FSB found a powerful bomb at his apartment. Another man planned to attack civilians with an ax and put out a video statement pledging allegiance to ISIS. He had contacted ISIS recruiters and received instructions from the group.

**September 11–12:** Unknown callers made fake bomb threats against dozens of landmark buildings and transport hubs, forcing the evacuation of 30,000 people in Moscow buildings and 45,000 people in dozens of cities across Russia. Targets included the GUM department store on Red Square, railway stations, airports, shopping centers, universities, hospitals and hotels.

**September 30:** A soldier from Dagestan Province fired his Kalashnikov rifle on his colleagues awaiting target practice at a base outside Belogorsk near the border with China, killing three and wounding two. He was shot while resisting arrest at the end of a manhunt.

FSB announced that a Russian border guard died in a shoot-out in a Russian village with two men who tried to cross into Ukraine. One of the men blew himself up and the other was detained. Unnamed security sources told Russian news agencies that the duo were militants traveling from the Middle East to Europe.

FSB announced on October 2 that on September 30 it had detained an unspecified number of male members of an ISIS sleeper cell outside Moscow and foiled a series of terrorist attacks targeting critical infrastructure and public events in Russia. The intelligence agency said the suspects were from the North Caucasus and reported to ISIS members based abroad. Authorities found two improvised explosive devices, grenades and guns.

**October 23:** An assailant sprayed a gas into the eyes of security guards in the lobby of a talk station, rode the elevator up to the radio station's 14th-floor offices, and stabbed the neck and arms of Tanya Felgengauer, the deputy editor-in-chief at Russia's *Echo of Moscow* radio. Security guards intervened and handcuffed Boris Grits, a foreign citizen.

**November 3:** The FSB detained Artpodgotovka (Artillery Bombardment) suspects accused of plan-

ning firebomb attacks against administrative buildings and to attack police over the weekend in Krasnoyarsk, Krasnodar, Kazan, Samar and Saratov to provoke mass riots and "destabilize socio-political situation in the country." The group was founded by opposition activist Vyacheslav Maltsev, a former regional legislator from Saratov, who unsuccessfully ran for the federal parliament in 2016. He left Russia during summer 2017. He was arrested in October 2017 in absentia on extremism charges.

**November 14:** The FSB announced the arrests of 69 members of Tablighi Jamaat, a global Sunni Islamic missionary movement that has been banned in Russia as an extremist group, during a raid near Moscow. The FSB confiscated the group's literature. It said natives of formerly Soviet Central Asian nations led the Moscow cell.

**December 17:** *CNN, TASS,* and the *Washington Post* reported that Russian President Vladimir Putin phoned President Donald Trump to thank him for CIA intelligence that the Federal Security Service used to foil planned ISIS-inspired terrorist attacks against the Kazan Cathedral and other areas of St. Petersburg. The Federal Security Service arrested seven members of a terrorist cell and confiscated "a significant amount of explosives," weapons and "extremist literature." The Kremlin said, "Information obtained from the CIA was sufficient to search for and arrest of criminals…. Vladimir Putin assured Donald Trump that the Russian intelligence services upon receipt of information relating to terrorist threats against the U.S. and its citizens, will immediately transmit to its American colleagues in partner channels." The terrorists had used *Telegram* to communicate. *RIA Novosti* reported Yevgeny Yefimov, 18, confessed to planning an attack in the city and later told a St. Petersburg court that he was planning to target the Kazan Cathedral. The FSB had announced the arrests of seven terrorist suspects on February 15. FSB quoted Yefimov as saying, "My job was to make explosives, put it in bottles and attach pieces of shrapnel." Other suspects came from Muslim regions of the North Caucasus; one man was from Tajikistan. 17121701

**December 27:** *AP, Reuters,* the *Washington Post,* and *BBC* reported that a bomb containing 200 grams (seven ounces) of explosives went off in a rucksack hidden in a locker at a storage area for customers' bags in a Perekrestok supermarket in St. Petersburg's northwest Kalininsky district, hospitalizing 18 people. The Investigative Committee said that the device was rigged with shrapnel, including ball bearings. ISIS claimed credit. President Putin told a military awards ceremony, "You know that yesterday in St. Petersburg a terrorist act was carried out…. I yesterday ordered the FSB director to act within the framework of the law when detaining these bandits of course, but if there is a threat to the life and well-being of our employees … to act decisively, not take any prisoners, and liquidate the bandits on the spot." CCTV spotted a person of "non–Slavic appearance" who left the bomb. Authorities arrested a male suspect on December 30. The Federal Security Service (FSB) said he acted alone. *Interfax* reported that he was 35, a local resident who said he was a member of an occult movement and was taking drugs.

*BBC* reported on January 2, 2018, that Russia's Investigative Committee (SK) charged St. Petersburg man Dmitry Lukyanenko, 35, a member of a nationalist group who had had psychiatric treatment, with terrorism. He had been registered at a psychiatric clinic since age 19. Russian media said he was scheduled to have psychiatric tests, had confessed, and was to remain in custody for at least two months. SK quoted him as saying he had "hatred towards the organisers and followers of the psychological training sessions" he had attended. "It is a psychic sect—they were torturing me…. I made this bomb and left two USB drives in order to tell people about them." One of the drives was hidden in a sausage on a supermarket shelf; SK found DNA linking Lukyanenko to it. Instructions for the bomb were stored on the drive. *Tass* reported that he had had "an anti-social lifestyle."

**December 31:** President Vladimir Putin signed a law doubling the penalty for false reports of impending explosions or fire to a possible 10 years in prison. Since September, authorities received false bomb reports regarding more than 3,000 structures in nearly 180 Russian cities. A senior Interior Ministry official said earlier in December that most of the threats came from Syria.

# Spain

**January 12:** The Interior Ministry said police arrested five Spaniards suspected of buying disused weapons to recondition and sell on the black market to international extremist and organized crime groups. Authorities seized 8,000 guns and rifles.

**January 13:** Spanish Guardia Civil officers arrested two suspected terrorists at a house in Ceuta. They were held for suspected terrorism offenses linked to ISIS. Police searched six houses in the city.

**January 17:** The Interior Ministry announced the arrest on the Canary Islands' city of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria of a Moroccan man, 30, suspected of praising terrorism by promoting jihadi groups, such as Syria's al-Qaeda-linked Fatah al-Sham Front, via a popular social media network.

**February 7:** The Interior Ministry announced the detention in Barcelona of two Moroccan men, aged 25 and 27, alleged to have raised money via drug trafficking and theft for ISIS. They also were accused of indoctrination in Islamist extremism and recruiting

others. Agents of Spain's Guardia Civil searched the duo's apartment in Badalona, bordering Barcelona.

**February 13:** Police arrested a Moroccan man, 33, in the Canary Islands who had allegedly stated his willingness to carry out attacks of "violent jihadism." Police found photos of him holding knives and posing with his wife and young son in combat attire with ISIS emblems. Police had watched him for five years.

Authorities in Bilbao arrested an Algerian man, 44, for allegedly praising extremism and training himself in ISIS ideology. Police earlier surveilled him for allegedly providing funds and forging identity documents for al-Qaeda.

**March 8:** The Interior Ministry announced that the Civil Guard found seven large containers of explosives in rural Irun in Guipuzcoa Province near the border with France which investigators believed belonged to ETA. The police found no recent activity at the cache.

**March 17:** Txetx Etcheverry, a prominent figure in the French Basque community who tried to manage a disarmament effort in 2016, told *Le Monde* that the Basque Nation and Liberty would complete its disarmament by April 8.

**April 7:** *BBC* reported that the Basque Nation and Liberty (ETA) separatist group announced it had surrendered its entire arsenal of weapons and explosives to civil society groups. ETA gave French authorities a list of eight caches where police found, according to Paris prosecutor Francois Molins, "dozens of handguns and rifles, thousands of pieces of ammunition, several hundred kilograms of explosives and products that can be used to make explosives, several hundreds of detonators and timers."

**April 22:** The civil guard in El Espinar near Segovia, acting on information from German and Egyptian authorities, arrested a 43-year-old Egyptian man for membership in an international terror organization. Egypt requested extradition. German authorities had detained him in a raid against a terrorist cell in Hamburg in 2002, but released him.

**April 25:** Police in Catalonia raided a dozen locations in five towns, including Barcelona, and arrested nine suspected members of ISIS with ties to the cells that conducted the 2016 suicide bomb attacks in Brussels's airport and subway. The suspects, aged between 21 and 40, were eight Moroccans living in Catalonia and a Spaniard. Four were suspected of being linked to people arrested following the 2016 Brussels airport and subway attacks that killed 32 people and wounded 300 others. Regional police spokesman Josep Lluis Trapero told *TV3* that the group was also being investigated for drug trafficking and other crimes.

**May 8:** Police in Spain and Morocco arrested three suspected ISIS members who worked to recruit ISIS followers and spread propaganda and encouraged jihadi attacks via the Internet. They had ties with senior ISIS members in Syria and Iraq and planned to travel to the war zone to fight. Two Moroccans were arrested in the northeastern Spanish towns of Salou and Badalona; a third was arrested in Tangier in northern Morocco.

**June 21:** The Interior Ministry announced that authorities detained three Moroccans, aged between 32 and 38, including a suspected ISIS member who had manuals about suicide attacks and cyber terrorism and was believed to have been in contact with ISIS members in Syria and Iraq. The trio lived together in a residential area of Madrid.

**June 23:** Spain's Interior Ministry announced that police in Melilla arrested a Danish man of Moroccan origin for involvement in in a network of at least 24 Danish companies that evaded more than 8 million euros in taxes to finance ISIS and recruit ten fighters from Denmark, Germany and Spain for the group.

**June 28:** The Interior Ministry announced that police arrested four suspected ISIS members in Mallorca, where the cell was based. Its members were arrested in the UK, Germany, and Spain.

**July 1:** The Civil Guard in Malaga arrested a Danish man, 29, suspected of having fought for ISIS in Syria. The suspect was born in Syria and acquired citizenship in Denmark.

**July 25:** At 7:35 a.m., Spanish National Police in Melilla arrested a Moroccan man, 29, who had held a large knife against his abdomen and shouted "Allahu Akbar" at the Beni Enzar border crossing. A police officer threw a large plastic bollard at the man. One officer sustained a small cut on a finger. 17072501

**July 30:** A 1:30 p.m. explosion in a first-floor apartment in Puente la Reina killed one person and injured eight others, one seriously, with flying glass and bricks. Police found a badly burned body and suggested that it was that of a male tenant, 80. Police were investigating the cause.

**August 16:** ETA set off car bombs in Marbella, Fuengirola and Zaragoza in Costa del Sol, coinciding with a summit of European Union leaders in Seville scheduled for the weekend. Shrapnel from one seriously injured a London-based British man, 33. He underwent surgery for wounds to the lungs, diaphragm and spleen. Six people, including two British children, were injured outside the Hotel Las Piramides in Fuengirola. A Moroccan child and a Spanish couple were also hurt when a grey Peugeot 205 exploded around 7 a.m. 17081601

A second bomb hit Marbella at 1:05 p.m., causing no injuries.

A third nighttime bomb hit Zaragoza, injuring a policeman, a security guard and a passing French na-

tional at the car park of the Corte Ingles department store. 17081602

*NBC News* reported that a bomb exploded at 11 p.m. in the Catalan town of *Alcanar*, killing a woman, including 16 people, including police officers and firefighters, and flattening a building. The house contained 120 propane tanks, remote detonators, an explosive belt, nails that they planned to use as shrapnel, 500 liters of acetone, and TATP explosives. Police suggested that the tanks might have been planned for use in the next day's Las Ramblas attack. Police believed the building was used to plan the upcoming Las Ramblas and Cambrils attacks and possibly build the bombs. Authorities said the terrorist cell of a dozen members had been broken up. They had squatted illegally in the building, which was owned by a bank. On August 24, police said that the dead bodies found in the house were those of Youssef Aalla and Abdelbaki Es Satty.

A package bomb exploded at 1:05 p.m. in a fuse box in a hotel car parking in Mijas on Costa del Sol, damaging two cars.

*El Pais* reported that a bomb in a Renault Clio exploded at 2:45 p.m. in Santander. The *Daily Mail* said it was the fifth car bomb in two days. Terrorists had telephoned a warning.

Police evacuated two hotels in the Costa del Sol area after receiving a warning that a bomb would go off in 30 minutes.

Police evacuated El Corte Ingles department store in Cordoba after receiving a telephone warning about a bomb.

**August 17:** *SkyNews, CNN, Reuters, NPR,* and *El Pais* reported that around 5 p.m., a white Fiat van being driven at 80 kph jumped a sidewalk in Barcelona's Las Ramblas shopping district and slalomed through a pedestrian walkway for 600 yards, often swerving to increase the body count, killing 14 people and wounding 130. Fifteen were seriously wounded; 80 were hospitalized. *CNN* added that Catalan police told everyone in the Plaça de Catalunya area to remain inside.

Police arrested four people in the northern Catalan town of Ripoll and in Alcanar; a senior police official said the suspects were a Spaniard from Melilla and three Moroccans who did not have terrorist backgrounds. The driver ran from the scene and remained at large. Those in custody were aged between 21 and 34. ISIS claimed its soldiers were responsible. A senior police officer said the van was "connected" to an explosion the previous day in Alcanar. More than 100 tanks of butane gas were found at the Alcanar house; police believed the terrorists were planning for a massive explosion.

A follow-up statement from ISIS had several factual errors, suggesting that they were not closely involved in the attack. The group said the attackers "stormed a bar with their light weapons near Las Ramblas square, torturing and killing the Crusaders and Jews inside." No "bar" was stormed (although there was initial fog-of-war reporting indicating such an attack), the "weapon" employed in the attack was a van and victims were attacked indiscriminately, not chosen by religion or race.

Police were searching for the younger brother of one of the arrested Moroccans. The older brother's ID card was in the van. The older brother turned himself in and told police that he believed his sibling, Moussa, may have stolen the document to rent the vehicle. *RTVE* reported the arrest of Driss Oukabir, a French citizen of Moroccan origin. *RTVE* reported that investigators believed two vans were used—one for the attack and a second as a getaway vehicle. Police said the same credit card for Younes Abouyaaqoub was used to rent three vans. *Reuters* reported that police found a second van, believed to be linked to the Barcelona van, in Vic; *AP* reported that the third van was found in Ripoll.

Younes Abouyaaqoub, 22, a Moroccan, was wanted for questioning; authorities believed he was the driver/ringleader. Catalan police believed he left Las Ramblas, hijacked a car after killing the driver, and drove out of the city. Police found a dead body with multiple stab wounds in an abandoned Ford outside the city. Abouyaaquoub's mother said his younger brother Hussein had disappeared. On August 21, *CNN* and *AP* reported that Spanish authorities shot and killed Younes Abouyaaqoub during an operation in Subirats, west of Barcelona, after he flashed a fake explosives belt and yelled "Allah is great" in Arabic at two troopers who stopped him in a vineyard. A robot removed the fake explosives belt from the body. *AP* reported that he was spotted outside a train station west of Barcelona on August 21. Police found a bag full of knives with his body.

Victims came from 34 countries, including Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Morocco, Canada, China, Colombia, Romania, Venezuela, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, the Philippines, France, Honduras, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Macedonia, Mauritania, the U.S., the UK, Spain, Pakistan, Peru, Dominica, Turkey, and Germany. France said 26 French citizens were injured, eleven seriously. Three Dutch nationals and a Greek woman and her two children were injured. A resident of Hong Kong and an American citizen had minor injuries. A 6-year-old was hospitalized with a cerebral hemorrhage. Two Australian women in serious but stable condition, and two Australian men were injured. A father of two, originally from the Philippines but who resides in Ireland, was hit on the side. Three Italians were injured.

The dead from all of the incidents involved in the spree (the Ford Focus stabbing and the Cambrils

attack) included eight males, including two minors, and eight women:

- Julian Alessandro Cadman, 7, an Australian born in the UK. He was with his Filipina mother, Jumarie (Jom) Cadman, 43, for a wedding at the time of the attack; she was hospitalized in serious condition and before losing consciousness, told hospital workers that her son was with her. Pharmacist Fouad Bakkali told the *Daily Mail* that she appeared to have two broken legs and a large head wound. Cadman's father, a cabinetmaker in Australia, flew to Spain to look for him. Julian was reported dead on August 20. Greg Whitby, executive director of the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, said that Cadman was a second grade student at St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary school in Lalor Park, a western Sydney suburb.
- Pepita Codina, 75, from Sant Hipolit de Voltrega, Spain. Her daughter, Elisabet, was treated at Hospital del Marin Barcelona.
- Italian citizen Bruno Gulotta, 35, from Legnano, who saved the lives of his two young children—Alessandro, 6, and Aria, 7 months—by throwing himself between them and the van. He was a sales manager for *Tom's Hardware Italia*, an online publication about technology.
- Carmen Lopardo, 80, was among three Italians killed, and apparently the oldest person to die. Lopadro immigrated to Argentina in 1950 and was visiting Barcelona.
- Francisco Lopez Rodriguez, 57 or 60, who was born in Lanteira, Spain and was a metal worker and machine operator in Rubi. He lived in Granada and was traveling with his niece and her son, Javier Martinez, 3, who was also killed. Lopez's wife, Roser, who worked at a meat shop in Rubi, was badly injured and hospitalized.
- Silvina Alejandra Pereyra, 40, an Argentine-Spanish dual citizen who resided in Barcelona for the last decade. She had family members in Bolivia.
- Luca Russo, 25, an Italian who held a university degree in engineering and lived in Bassano del Grappa, near Venice. He volunteered with the Green Cross and had a job as an electronic engineer in Padua for the previous year. His girlfriend, Marta Scomazzon, suffered fractures to a foot and elbow and was hospitalized.
- Jared Tucker, 43, from Lafayette, California, was on a two-week European trip with his wife, Heidi Nunes, a schoolteacher, to celebrate their one-year anniversary. He worked with his father in a family business remodeling swimming pools. He enjoyed fishing, golf and other sports. He is survived by three daughters.
- Belgian citizen Elke Vanbockrijck, 44, the mother of two junior players of the KFC Heur Tongeren football team, aged 10 and 14. The boys and their father, a policeman, were unhurt. The family was vacationing in Barcelona. She worked at a bank in Tongeren, near the Dutch border.
- A Portuguese woman, 74, from Lisbon, who was celebrating her birthday. Her granddaughter, 20, was reported missing; her dead body was found later.
- Four Germans, including a German woman, 51, who died on August 27 from her injuries at the intensive care unit of Barcelona's Hospital del Mar.
- Ian Moore Wilson, 53, a Canadian. His wife, Valerie, was wounded. They lived in Vancouver.

British Prime Minister Theresa May told *Sky News*: "Sadly I must tell you that we do believe that a number of British nationals were caught up in the attack, and we're urgently looking into reports of a child believed missing who is a British dual national."

After tweeting "The United States condemns the terror attack in Barcelona, Spain, and will do whatever is necessary to help. Be tough & strong, we love you!" President Trump echoed a debunked century-old myth that General John Pershing had used bullets dipped in pigs' blood to execute 49 Muslim fighters in the Philippines.

On August 19, police said they had searched nine Ripoll apartments, plus the home of an imam who was believed to be the cell's radicalizing force. Abdelbaki Es Satty, variant el-Saty, variant el-Satty, variant Abdelbaki Essati, headed a mosque in Ripoll but left abruptly in June 2017, claiming he wanted to return to Morocco for three months. He was believed to have died in the Alcanar explosion. Catalan Justice Minister Carles Mundó i Blanchsaid said el-Saty had served a jail sentence for drug trafficking in Castellon Province. Spanish media reported that el-Satty shared a jail cell with Rachid Aglif, alias "The Rabbit," one of the terrorists involved in the March 11, 2004, Madrid train bombings.

On August 21, Catalan Justice Minister Carles Mundo said the 15th fatality was Pau Perez, who was found stabbed in the Universitaria district in the north of Barcelona in a car that authorities believe was used as a getaway vehicle. Josep Lluís Trapero, chief of the Catalan National Police, added that investigators had found "physical evidence" that linked Younes Abouyaaqoub, now believed to be the driver of the Las Ramblas van, with a carjacking of a Ford Focus after the attack. Abouyaaquob used the car to crash through barricades as police officers fired at the car. He abandoned the vehicle, which had Perez's body in the back seat, a few miles away.

On August 22, four alleged members of the terrorist cell appeared, with court-appointed lawyers, before National Court Judge Fernando Andreu in Madrid. Driss Oukabir, 28, whose brother was shot dead in Cambrils, Mohammed Aalla, and Salh el-

Karib were arrested in Ripoll. Mohamed Houli Chemlal, 21, born in Melilla, was arrested after he was the lone survivor of the explosion at a house in Alcanar. Chemlal said the attackers were making bombs for the imam to hit monuments, including Sagrada Família, in Barcelona, according to *The Guardian*. Chemlal, in a wheelchair, said he survived because he was on the ground floor of the Alcanar house washing dishes after dinner. Aalla said his Audi A3 had been stolen. Driss Oukabir said he thought the vans were going to be used for a house move, and that he was not part of his brother's cell. He initially claimed because of fear that his brother stole his documents. El-Karib, owner of a Ripoll cybercafé, said he bought plane tickets for two cell members solely to make a profit. Prosecutors recommended jail without bail. The judge ordered Oukabir and Chemlal held without bail charged with membership of a terrorist organization and murder. Chemlal was also charged with dealing with explosives. El-Karib was detained for another 72 hours. Allaa was freed on condition that he appear in court weekly, relinquish his passport and not leave Spain. On August 24, Judge Fernando Andreu provisionally freed Salh el-Karib, but confiscated his passport and required him to appear in court once a week.

Court documents indicated that the cell members bought knives and an ax between the two attacks.

*The Guardian* reported on August 23 that in Morocco, a 34-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of being connected to the cell. He was a cousin of the Oukabir brothers, and previously lived in Ripoll.

*AP* reported on August 23 the Swiss Fedpol spokeswoman Cathy Maret said that one of the suspects spent a night at a Zurich hotel in December 2016.

*AP* reported on September 22 that authorities arrested a man linked to an extremist cell involved in the Barcelona attack. 17081701

**August 17:** *CNN* reported that the driver of a white Ford Focus hit and slightly injured two police officers at a security checkpoint in Sant Just Desvern, on the western outskirts of Barcelona. It was unclear whether the incident was related to the earlier terrorist attack in Barcelona. Local media said regional troopers shot and killed a person from the car, although neither city nor regional police confirmed the shooting.

**August 18:** At 1 a.m., terrorists drove an Audi into a group of pedestrians near the boardwalk in Cambrils, killing Ana Maria Suarez, 61, and injuring seven, including a police officer. Suarez's husband and sister were hospitalized. Police shot to death five suspects who were wearing fake bomb belts; a single police officer killed four of the suspects. An ax and knives were found in the car. One person was slashed on the face with a knife during the attack. ISIS claimed credit.

Ana Maria Suarez was originally from Zaragoza, and was on vacation with her family. Her husband and one of her sisters were hospitalized.

Spanish intelligence officials circulated four names among their European counterparts. Four men, all holding Moroccan citizenship, ranged in age from 17 to 24. Three were born in Morocco: Said Aallaa, 18; Younes Abouyaaqoub, 22; and Mohamed Hychami, 24. Youssef Aalla, 22, was also believed involved in the attacks. A Spanish police document said the fourth was Moussa Oukabir, 17, but Spanish officials flagged someone with the same family name but a different first name. All lived in or near Ripoll, near the French border. At least three of the men were killed in the attack in Cambrils. Mohammad Aalla, brother of the other Aalla/Aallaas, was the registered owner of the Audi A3 used as a weapon in the Cambrils attack and was taken into police custody, according to his father, Ibrahim. Hychami's mother said her younger son, Omar, had disappeared after the attack. The Hychamis and Abouyaaqoub were related: Fatima Abouyaaquoub was the sister-in-law of the Hychami brothers and the cousin of Younes Abouyaaquoub.

French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb told *BFM-TV* on August 22 that the black Audi A3 used by the attackers in Cambrils had been photographed by radar in the Paris region for speeding some time before the attacks. French newspapers said it was seen in the Essonne region south of Paris.

**September 19:** Police arrested a 25-year-old Pakistani male resident of the northern Catalan city of Lleida suspected of promoting terrorism and spreading Islamic jihadi propaganda on social media networks. He was part of a cell that included three Pakistani brothers who were arrested in Lleida in 2016.

**October 17:** The Civil Guard in Palamos in Catalonia, with FBI assistance, arrested a Spanish woman, 21, who allegedly recruited other women to join ISIS in conflict areas. She also was accused of self-radicalization by reading ISIS propaganda and establishing online networks with other jihadi activists, mostly women.

# Sweden

**January 5:** A homemade bomb exploded at an asylum-seeker center in Gothenburg, seriously wounding an immigration officer staff member in the legs. A suspect was taken into custody in January. Two other suspects were picked up on February 1 and 2, according to *AFP*. Mats Ljungqvist of the anti-terror prosecutor's office said the trio "are or were in the past members of the Nordic Resistance Movement," a neo–Nazi group.

**January 25:** A bomb was found at a campground temporarily housing migrants outside Gothenburg. It failed to detonate. Neo-Nazis were suspected.

**April 7:** At 2:55 p.m., a carjacked Spendrups beer delivery truck, with "Kall Ol" on the side, turned from Olaf Palme Street, sped for 500 yards on Drottninggatan (Queen Street), then crashed into the upscale Ahlens department store in Stockholm's Sergels Torg square, killing five people and wounding 15; ten were hospitalized. On April 28, a woman in her 60s died of her injuries, becoming the fifth victim. Authorities announced that the dead included a British man, a 31-year-old Belgian woman, and two Swedish citizens. One woman suffered a severed foot. The driver fled. He had stolen the truck at 2:30 p.m. while the company's driver had left the engine running during a delivery. *SVT* reported that a homemade bomb was found in the truck's wreckage. That night, Rakhmat Akilov, 39, a male Uzbek-born suspect, was arrested in Marsta, a northern Stockholm suburb near Arlanda International Airport. *Aftonbladet* reported that a man with minor injuries (apparently caused by the explosives which did not detonate properly) was arrested and confessed. He was a failed asylum-seeker—his 2014 request for a residence permit was denied in June 2016—who was to be deported in December 2016 but had gone missing. Police had issued a notice in February 2017 seeking his whereabouts. Jonas Hysing, a national police official, said the suspect "has been sympathetic to extremist organizations." Five other people were arrested; 500 were questioned. By April 10, four of the detainees were released. Akilov was represented by attorney Johan Eriksson.

*CNN* reported on April 10 that among the dead was British citizen Chris Bevington, 41, Spotify's director of global partnerships and business development, based in the firm's Stockholm office. He had been with Spotify for five years.

The Stockholm District Court ruled on April 11 that police could detain Akilov for a month after he admitted in court that he drove the truck into a crowd.

*Sweden's TV4* said on April 11 that Ebba Akerlund, 11, had died, as had a 69-year-old Swedish woman.

*Tass* reported that Akilov was also wanted in Uzbekistan "in connection with the production and distribution of materials containing a threat to public security and public order, as well as participation in religious extremist organizations, and the involvement of a minor in anti-social behavior."

On April 23, Swedish police arrested a second man but released him on April 26.

On June 8 *AP* reported that Swedish investigator Christer Nilsson said the probe into the April 7 truck attack in downtown Stockholm that killed five and injured 14 would last until the end of the year. He said, "give or take a couple of months," that formal charges would be ready against Rakhmat Akilov, 39, an Uzbek who admitted driving the truck. Nilsson said that 65 people were working on the case and 1,279 people had been questioned. 17040701

**April 30:** Stockholm police spokesman Lars Bystrom said police were investigating a nighttime fire that caused major damage to a mosque near Stockholm that "appears to have been lit from the outside." No one was injured.

**June 9:** Prosecutor Mats Ljungqvist announced that three men with links to the white-supremacist Nordic Resistance Movement were charged with attempted murder and endangering the public in connection with recent attacks in southern Sweden targeting newly arrived migrants and a left-wing group. Ljungqvist mentioned an unexploded device found on January 25 near a campsite accommodating migrants, a January 5 bomb that seriously injured one person, and a November 2016 bombing outside a left-wing group's offices in Goteborg. He said the trio was "dissatisfied with the leadership" of the NRM for not using violence. Two of the men had received military training in Russia before the attacks. Ljungqvist did not link the NRM to the attacks, hinting that the trio acted independently. The men were arrested in February and March. Their trial was scheduled for June 21.

**July 7:** The Goteborg District Court sentenced three men with links to an extremist group for recent attacks in southern Sweden targeting newly arrived migrants and a left-wing group.

- Viktor Melin, 23, was deemed guilty of attempted murder and endangering, and sentenced to eight years and six months in prison. The court said he made three bombs: an unexploded device found on January 25, 2017 near a campsite accommodating migrants, a January 5, 2017 bomb that seriously injured one person, and a bombing in November 2016 outside a left-wing group's offices in Goteborg. He was represented by attorney Michael Hansson.
- Jimmy Jonasson, 51, was sentenced to five years for providing dynamite and other material for the January 5 bomb.
- Anton Thulin, 20, received 18 months for providing components for the failed January 25 attack. They were acquitted of attempted murder.

Prosecutors said the trio seemed to be "dissatisfied with the leadership" of the white-supremacist Nordic Resistance Movement for not using violent means to achieve their ends. The men were arrested in February and March 2017.

**September 5:** Prosecutor Ewamari Haggkvist said a person was arrested in southern Sweden on suspicion of preparing a terror offense. *Aftonbladet* reported the man was in his late 30s and his crime was committed after August 21.

**September 14:** Prosecutor Karolina Wieslander charged Syrian asylum-seeker and former fighter with Damascus's government forces Mohammad Abdullah, 33, with war crimes on suspicion that he posed

in front of dead or wounded ISIS combatants in January 2014. Abdullah said he was ordered to pose. He arrived in Sweden in 2015. Wieslander said Abdullah knew the photos were intended as propaganda. A Stockholm trial was scheduled for September 18.

**September 26:** Police arrested a man suspected of arson following a 2 a.m. fire that partly destroyed a mosque in Orebro. No one was injured.

**October 18:** Before dawn, an explosion at the main entrance to a police station in Helsingborg caused significant damage but no injuries. No arrests were announced.

**December 9:** Police arrested three people for throwing firebombs at a synagogue in Goteborg during an evening youth event. No injuries were reported.

**December 16:** A synagogue in Goteborg was firebombed, causing no injuries or damage. On December 19, Swedish prosecutor Stina Lundqvist said an 18-year-old, one of two men held for the attack, had been released.

## Switzerland

**February 22:** The office of the attorney general announced that more than 100 federal police searched several houses and a house of prayer in the Italian-speaking Ticino region, arresting one person in a criminal probe over suspected recruiting for ISIS or related organizations. The federal probe centers on two men of Swiss-Turkish and Turkish nationality for alleged violation of laws banning extremist organizations such as al-Qaeda and ISIS.

**March 9:** At 8:15 p.m., two Albanian gunmen entered Café 56 in Basel and opened fire, killing two people and critically injuring a third before escaping in the direction of a nearby railway station. A police officer told *AP*, "This is a local incident. It has nothing to do with Islamists or terrorism." The next day, the gunmen, aged between 30 and 40, remained at large. They had black hair and wore dark clothing.

**August 24:** Attorney General Michael Lauber indicted a Zurich-area Swiss woman, 30, suspected of trying to reach Syria to join ISIS. She was indicted for alleged violations of laws banning al-Qaeda, ISIS and associated extremist groups. She allegedly travelled illegally with her four-year-old child from Egypt to Greece in December 2015, planning to cross from Turkey into Syria. Greek authorities handed her over to Swiss authorities in January 2016.

**September 21:** Attorney General Michael Lauber indicted Nicolas Blancho, the leader of the Islamic Central Council of Switzerland, and two of its top members—the unnamed leaders of the organization's "cultural production" and "public relations and information" departments—in connection with alleged propaganda videos, made in Syria in 2015, posted on *YouTube* backing al-Qaeda. Swiss law bans al-Qaeda, ISIS, and associated extremist groups.

## Turkey

**January 1:** The *Washington Post, Reuters, AP,* and *CNN* reported that Istanbul Governor Vasip Sahin said 39 people, including citizens of seven foreign countries, were killed and 70 wounded in a 1:15 a.m. attack at the Reina Club nightclub in the Besiktas neighborhood in the Ortakov district of Istanbul on the edge of the Bosporus strait during New Year's celebrations. One woman said she heard the gunman shout "Allahu Akbar." CCTV footage showed a gunman wearing a Santa Claus hat firing a long-barreled rifle, killing a police officer guarding the door, then firing at the 600 partiers. The *New York Times* said he used a Kalashnikov assault rifle. Turkish authorities refuted the Santa Claus costume story. *Hurriyet* initially reported three attackers were involved. Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Solu Soylu said the attacker changed clothes to escape. At least 24 victims were foreigners, including citizens of 17 countries, among them Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq, France, Tunisia, India, Morocco, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait, Canada, Israel, Syria, Belgium, Germany and Russia. *CNN* initially reported the tally of the dead was:

- Turkey—11
- Saudi Arabia—7
- Iraq—3
- Lebanon—3
- India—2
- Jordan—2
- Morocco—2
- Tunisia—2 (one French dual national)
- Belgium—1 (a Turkish dual national)
- Russia—1
- Canada—1
- Kuwait—1
- Syria—1
- Palestinian citizen of Israel

The dead included (the following adds to more than 24, typical of conflicting reporting on terrorist attacks):

- Burak Yildiz, 22, a police officer who had been on the force for 18 months and who was en route to his home town of Mersin. He was the first person to be killed. He was the youngest of three children. His brother is an officer in Istanbul, according to *Anadolu*.
- Ayhan Arik, 47, a travel agent/chauffeur and father of two, who was shot in the head outside the club before the terrorist walked into Reina, according to *Dogan*.
- Mehmet Kerim Akyil, 23, a Belgian-Turkish citizen who had traveled from Belgium to Istanbul for a New Year's vacation. Residents in the Belgian

town of Houthalen-Helchteren held a candlelight vigil.

- Hatice Karcilar, 29, a Turkish private security guard, who was survived by her husband and a three-year-old daughter, according to *Anadolu*.
- Mustafa Sezgin Seymen, 32, who was at Reina with his fiancée, Sezen Arseven. She was wounded; Seymen, from Trabzon, was killed.
- Canadian Alaa al-Muhandia, 29, a mother of two from Milton, Ontario.
- Abdullah Ahmed Abbolos, 32, a Palestinian living in Saudi Arabia, who had come to Istanbul to celebrate the new year.
- Lubna Ghasnawi, 34, a Saudi entrepreneur who worked full-time as a communications manager for one of Saudi Arabia's largest banks and also co-owned a start-up with her sister called Exclusave Card, the first student discount card in Saudi Arabia.
- Mustafa Jalal, 22, an Iraqi architecture student from Kirkuk who studied at Kemburgaz University. He was an only child who loved cars and swimming.
- Bulent Sirvan Osman, 38, a married father of two from Erbil, Iraq, who was in Istanbul for business.
- Leanne Nasser, 18 or 19, an Arab-Israeli woman and dental assistant from the Israeli-Arab town of Tira who came to celebrate with three friends. This was her first trip abroad. She completed high school in June. She wanted to become a dentist. Thousands of people attended her funeral in Tira.
- Three or four Turkish employees of the club. Among them was Fatih Cakmak, 32, who survived a car bomb attack outside Istanbul's Vodafone Arena stadium on December 11, 2016, and was hired to work security for the Favori Vip company.
- The French Foreign Ministry said a Franco-Tunisian woman and her Tunisian husband were killed.
- The Jordanian Foreign Ministry said two or three (reports differed) of its nationals died. Among them was businessman Nawras Assaf, 44, whose wife was wounded.
- Reports differed on whether two or three Indian citizens were killed.
- Abis Rizvi, 49, a builder from Mumbai builder wrote, produced and directed a Bollywood movie "Roar: The Tigers of Sunderbans," in 2014 aimed at spreading awareness about tigers. He was the director and EO of Rizvi Group of companies, which is involved in real estate, education, and entertainment.
- Khushi Shah, an Indian fashion designer from Vadodara in Gujarat State. She was based in Mumbai. She had started her own fashion label, KhushiZ and had traveled to Istanbul for work three days earlier.
- A Belgian.
- Dubai-based broadcaster *al-Arabiya* reported that seven people from Saudi Arabia were killed.
- German Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Schaefer said two people from Bavaria—one a German-Turkish dual citizen and the other believed to have had only Turkish nationality—were killed.
- Kuwait's Consul-General Mohammad Fahad al-Mohammad said a Kuwaiti was killed.

The wounded included citizens of Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Libya and Morocco, among them:

- Lutfu Uyanik, husband of Sinem Uyanik.
- Lebanese citizen Bushra el-Douaihy, the daughter of member of parliament Estephan el-Douaihy.
- Lebanese fitness trainer Elias Wardini, 26, was engaged to be married. His partner survived. Many senior Lebanese Christians attended his funeral.
- Lebanese newlywed (four months earlier) and fitness trainer Haykal Moussalem, variant Haikal Musalam, 35, whose partner survived. He was buried in his native Chouf district, outside Beirut.
- Lebanese Rita Chami, 26, lost her mother to cancer in July 2016. She had taken time out of her university studies to care for her.
- French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said three French citizens were wounded.
- Ruaa Mansour, 18, a friend of Leanne Nasser, who was killed.
- William Jacob Raak, 35, a businessman originally from Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania and now living in Greenville, Delaware, was shot in the leg, played dead and stayed silent and motionless, according to *NBC News* and the *Washington Post.* He told *Dogan* that he was in the club with nine friends, seven of whom were shot.
- Dubai-based broadcaster *al-Arabiya* reported that ten people from Saudi Arabia were wounded.
- German Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Schaefer said three German citizens were wounded.
- Jordan's Foreign Ministry said six Jordanians were wounded, including the wife of businessman Nawras Assaf, who was killed.
- Kuwait's Consul-General Mohammad Fahad al-Mohammad said five Kuwaitis were injured.

WNBA players Essence Carson, Chelsea Gray and Jantel Lavender of the Los Angeles Sparks were next door to the shooting.

On January 2, the *Washington Post* reported that ISIS tweeted that a "heroic soldier of the caliphate" used grenades and a rifle in "revenge for God's religion" and following orders from Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who recently urged his followers to attack Turkey. ISIS said Turkey was responsible for "Muslim blood spilt" by Turkish "airstrikes and artillery." "In continuation of the blessed operations which ISIS carries

out against Turkey, a soldier of the brave caliphate attacked one of the most popular nightclubs while Christians were celebrating their holiday." Some reports said ISIS called it a "pagan" holiday; other reports said "apostate" holiday.

*Anadolu* reported the same day that eight people were detained in connection with the attack.

The Turkish chief of general staff's office said that Turkish jets hit eight ISIS targets and fired artillery rounds against 103 other ISIS positions in al-Bab, Syria, killing 22 terrorists and destroying many buildings.

Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus said that authorities obtained the fingerprints and a basic description of the terrorist.

The Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) denied responsibility.

*Hurriyet* and *Karar* cited security officials saying that authorities had determined that the gunman was believed to be either from Uzbekistan or Kyrgyzstan.

*Anatolia* and *NPR* reported on January 3 that authorities at Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport's international flights terminal arrested two people in connection with the case. Police checked the duo's cell phones and luggage. Another 14 people were being held for questioning.

*Hurriyet* reported that a woman identified by Turkish media as the wife of the suspect told police she did not know her husband was an ISIS member. She was held in Konya. News reports said the terrorist flew to Istanbul from Kyrgyzstan with his wife and two children on November 20, 2016. From there they drove to Ankara before arriving in Konya on November 22. The family rented a studio in Konya, paying three months of rent. The gunman told the estate agent he had arrived in Konya in search of work. *Hurriyet* said the gunman returned to Istanbul on December 29.

Turkish television released a 44-second "selfie video" of the gunman filming himself, unsmiling, with his phone at Taksim Square. He was believed to be from a Central Asian nation. *Haber Turk* newspaper said the man could be a Chinese Muslim Uighur.

*AP* and *CNN* reported on January 4 that Turkish authorities had identified the gunman, although they did not release his name. *Sabah* newspaper, which is close to the government, said the suspect was a Kyrgyz national who was born in 1988. Other reports said the government denied that a Kyrgyz passportholder was involved.

The government said he escaped in a taxi. *Anadolu* reported that police raided homes in Izmir and detained five alleged ISIS members. Gendarmerie police and special operations teams conducted more raids on January 5, detaining several Chinese Muslim Uighurs suspected of "aiding and abetting" the gunman at a housing complex in Istanbul's suburban Silivri district. Some 39 other people, including eleven women, were already in custody.

*AP* reported on January 13 that a Turkish court had remanded in custody Chinese citizens Omar Asim and Abuliezi Abuduhamiti on charges of membership in an "armed terror organization" and of assisting in 39 counts of first-degree murder.

On January 17 *AP* and *NTV* reported that police detained the suspected gunman in a special operations raid in Istanbul's Esenyurt district on a house belonging to a friend from Kyrgyzstan. *Hurriyet* and other media identified the gunman as Abdulkadir Masharipov, 34, variant Abdulgadir, an Uzbek. *Dogan* news agency ran a photo of a bruised, black-haired man in a grey, bloodied shirt; he had resisted arrest. His Kyrgyz friend and three women—from Somalia, Senegal and Egypt—also were detained. His four-year-old child, who was with him at the home, was taken into protective custody. *Hurriyet* reported that Masharipov's wife and one-year-old daughter were caught in a police operation on January 12. Turkish authorities said that he had confessed and that his fingerprints were a match. They said he had trained in Afghanistan and worked for ISIS. Police discovered banknotes of different countries in his flat. *Hurriyet* said he had received orders directly from Raqqa.

By January 18 Turkish police had raided seven locations in Bursa and detained 27 individuals, including 15 women, linked to Masharipov. They came from Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and China's minority Muslim Uighur community. Police took 29 children into protective custody and seized 40 passports and 15 mobile phones set up with fake identity cards found at an empty house connected to Tajik national M.S., an ISIS facilitator for foreign nationals.

*Anadolu* reported on February 11 that Abdulkadir Masharipov, an Uzbek citizen born in 1983, was formally arrested. He was detained at a hide-out in Istanbul on January 16 after evading police for more than two weeks. The prosecutor demanded his arrest on charges of attempting to overthrow the constitutional order, being a member of an armed terror organization, and murder. Authorities said he was trained in Afghanistan and staged the attack for ISIS, which claimed responsibility for the attack.

*Dogan* reported that authorities in Istanbul on February 12 arrested A.S., a Frenchman with an ethnic Turkish background they believed was among the planners of the attack. He was carrying a contract to rent an apartment that was used by Abdulkadir Masharipov. Authorities in Burdur had previously issued a warrant for his arrest. A.S. had lived in France since 2009.

On May 17 *AP* and *Anadolu* reported that a Turkish court accepted a 90-page indictment of 57 suspects allegedly involved in the New Year's nightclub attack in Istanbul. Abdulkadir Masharipov, an Uzbek

suspect who was caught two weeks after the attack, could face 40 consecutive life sentences if convicted on charges of attempting to overthrow Turkey's constitutional order and killing 39 people. Turkish media claimed that Masharipov confessed and told his interrogators that he had received orders from Raqqa, the de facto capital of the Islamic State group in Syria. He also faced charges of membership in a terror group, attempted murder of 79 injured and violating Turkey's firearms law. These charges can carry a maximum total of 2,397 years in prison. Four others, including Masharipov's wife, were charged with the same crimes except the firearms violation. The other 52 suspects were charged with attempting to overthrow the constitutional order, carrying a sentence of life in prison, and membership in a terror group, with a sentence of 7.5 to 15 years.

On December 11 the trial began against 57 suspects, mostly foreigners and 51 of them jailed, including the alleged shooter in the New Year's Eve attack, near a prison on the outskirts of Istanbul. Lead suspect Albulkadir Masharipov, 34, was charged with membership in a terror group, murder and attempting to overthrow the constitutional order, among other charges. The prosecutor sought multiple aggravated life sentences. Masharipov had trained in Afghanistan, according to police. 17010101

**January 5:** Gunmen fired at police at a checkpoint outside Izmir's Bayrakli courthouse before setting off a car bomb, killing policeman Fethi Sekin and a courthouse official. Police shot dead two terrorists and were seeking a third suspect. *Reuters* reported that ten people were hospitalized with injuries. *Reuters* reported that the government blamed the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). Deputy Prime Minister Veysi Kaynak said a much larger attack was apparently being planned, based on the weapons found at the scene, including Kalashnikov rifles, hand grenades and ammunition for rocket-propelled grenade launchers. Two people, believed to have sold the vehicle used in the attack, were subsequently detained. Izmir governor Erol Ayyildiz said that a second vehicle—the potential getaway car—was detonated in a controlled explosion. The next day, police detained 18 people. *AP* and the *Firat News Agency* reported on January 11 that the Kurdistan Freedom Falcons (TAK) said that two members of its "revenge team," "comrades" Mustafa Coban, 29, and Enes Yildirim, 25, died in the attack. TAK threatened "new acts of revenge" against the "fascist" Turkish state.

**January 10:** Police killed a gunman who fired at officers outside a police station in Gaziantep, near Turkey's border with Syria. A police officer was slightly wounded. A suspected accomplice fled.

**January 16:** *Anadolu* reported that a roadside bomb hit a bus near Dicle University in the Sur district of Diyarbakir Province in the afternoon, killing four policemen and wounding two others. The PKK was blamed.

**January 20:** Suspected Revolutionary People's Liberation Army-Front (DHKP-C) leftists fired light anti-armor weapons in Istanbul, causing no injuries. One rocket hit the garden wall of the city's main police station. The second went through the wall of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) headquarters in the Sutluce neighborhood but did not explode.

**January 27:** *Anadolu* reported that during raids in Samsun, police detained three Iraqi brothers suspected of making suicide bombs for ISIS by setting up a factory in Mosul, Iraq.

**February 5:** Anti-terrorism police announced they had detained 445 people in a series of anti–ISIS raids in Ankara, Izmir, Sanliurfa, Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Istanbul, and Kocaeli Province. Sixty suspects, most of them foreigners, ten of them minors, were detained in Ankara in the morning. One hundred were arrested in Sanliurfa, where police found ISIS materials. Nine suspects planning an attack were detained in Izmir. The next day, the Interior Ministry said more than 820 people were detained in 29 provinces. *Anadolu* reported that police seized IS documents, digital material and six firearms.

**February 9:** Police detained four IS suspects planning to conduct a "sensational" attack in Turkey and seized 24 suicide belts in an anti-terror operation in Gaziantep. The suicide belts contained 150 kilograms of explosives and were fortified with metal pieces. Police also found two automatic rifles, 31 pounds of TNT and other materials. One suspect was wanted for membership in a terror organization.

**February 11:** *Anadolu* reported that authorities arrested Mahamad Laban, 45, a Danish citizen of Lebanese origin, and Mohammed Tefik Saleh, 38, a Swedish citizen of Iraqi origin, for planning IS attacks in Europe. *Anadolu* said they had received weapons and explosives training in Syria for the past three months. Police questioned the suspects for ten days in Adana Province. Saleh's wife told Swedish authorities that he and his two daughters crossed from Turkey to Syria and joined ISIS in 2014. The wife did not go to Syria, and returned to Sweden. Laban was carrying photos of him in trenches, wearing camouflage and holding a machine gun.

**February 17:** A remotely-detonated car bomb exploded near the homes of judges and prosecutors in the mainly Kurdish town of Viransehir in Sanliurfa Province, killing two people, including a 3-year-old (other reports said 11-year-old) son of a court clerk and a 27-year-old neighborhood guard, and wounding 15 other people, hospitalizing eleven people, including the public prosecutor's wife. Two people were in critical condition. Sanliurfa governor Gungor Azim

Tuna said that a young man parked a vehicle near the lodgings. Turkish officials detained 26 people, including the owner of the van. The governor told *Anadolu* that the PKK was responsible.

**February 18:** Turkish Airlines flight TK-17 in Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport was evacuated before taking off to Toronto's Pearson International Airport after a note "BOMB TO TORONTO" was discovered on the wall of one of its restrooms during pushback from the gate.

**February 27:** *Anadolu* reported that Kurdish rebels bombed railway tracks in the mainly Kurdish city of Diyarbakir, close to its historic Sur district, as a freight train was passing by, derailing several carriages but causing no injuries.

**February 28:** The Gaziantep governor's office announced the arrest of three suspected IS members believed to have trained to become suicide bombers. Two were arrested on February 14 in a province bordering Syria; the third was captured the next week in Adiyaman Province. Two other suspects were freed pending trial.

**March 15:** *Dogan* and *Anadolu* reported that the PKK was suspected when a roadside bomb went off as security forces were passing by on the highway linking Mardin and Diyarbakir, killing two soldiers. The soldiers were searching for land mines.

**March 22:** The armed forces claimed that a sniper shot fired from Syria killed a Turkish soldier on guard duty at the military border post near Reyhanli. Turkish forces fired back. Officials said the sniper shot was fired from a region held by U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish militia. 17032201

**March 29:** *DHA* reported that a suspected PKK terrorist was killed when the bomb he was preparing inside a car went off prematurely in the morning in Buca in Izmir Province. His colleague inside the car was wounded. *DHA* said the duo apparently were to place bombs in Buca. One exploded in a trash can 20 minutes after the explosion inside the car.

*Anadolu* reported that police in Adana arrested Syrian citizen Safwan Qahwati, who allegedly recruited terrorists from European countries to fight for ISIS. Days earlier, he and his wife were detained on a bus on a highway near Saricam and interrogated by police. *Anadolu* said he was a senior ISIS member who recruited terrorists and provided weapons and explosives training. He was believed to have illegally entered Hatay Province with his wife on March 15. *Anadolu* indicated that police found digital images of Qahwati, including one in which he posed wearing a mask and holding a knife on a man's throat. She was believed to have been deported.

**April 11:** Turkish authorities said a ton of explosives, including RDX, ammonium nitrate and TNT, in a tunnel went off under a Diyarbakir workshop where a police armored vehicle was being repaired, killing a police officer and two civilian employees and injuring several others. The workshop was an annex to the city's main police headquarters. Police arrested five people.

**April 14:** *Anadolu* reported that five people with alleged links to ISIS were detained in three operations in Istanbul, suspected of planning "sensational attacks" in the run-up to the April 16 referendum. Among the suspects was a Tajik who had visited "conflict zones" and who worked for ISIS in Istanbul. On April 15, *AP* and *Anadolu* reported that 49 people with alleged ISIS links had been detained in seven Istanbul districts following a tip. Forty-one foreigners were detained. They were also connected to the perpetrators of the New Year's nightclub attack in Istanbul.

**April 19:** *Anadolu* reported that Z.C., a fugitive who was convicted in absentia for involvement in a November 2003 bomb attack against HSBC bank in Istanbul and of membership in al-Qaeda, was arrested in a village in of Cankiri Province, where he was an acting village imam. *DHA* reported that he had escaped to Afghanistan while on trial. He was sentenced to six years in prison.

**April 24:** Authorities arrested U.S. citizen Kary Paul Kleman, who had arrived at Oncupinar border crossing in Kilis Province, along with his Syrian wife and four children, and turned himself in to authorities on April 20. His family was put under administrative detention to be deported to the U.S. Kleman and his family crossed to Turkey with British man Stefan Aristidou, his British wife and child. Aristidou was from north London. Aristidou was also arrested and the family were to be deported to the U.K. The media reported that the men arrived from areas held by ISIS.

**April 25:** *Anadolu* and *DHA* reported that an explosion inside a shuttle bus carrying university students on the Asian side of Istanbul wounded seven people.

**April 29:** *Dogan* and *Hurriyet* reported that Saeed Karimian, Iranian founder of the Farsi-language *GEM TV* satellite television network was shot dead in Istanbul along with a Kuwaiti business partner, M.M. An Iranian court sentenced him to prison in March for making "propaganda" against the country. An SUV blocked off his car and those inside opened fire. The SUV was later found burned. 17042901

**April 30:** The Customs and Trade Ministry announced the arrest at the port of Zonguldak on the Black Sea of Iranian national E.E., who tried to smuggle in parts of a Russian-made anti-tank missile system with the suspected aim of delivering them to a

terror organization, after officials searched his truck that had arrived aboard a vessel from Ukraine. The truck was officially carrying diapers but inside were "main parts" of a Russian-made system used by Kurdish rebels and ISIS.

**May 20–21:** *Anadolu* reported that two suspected male ISIS members in their 20s were killed in an Ankara police operation during the night. Ankara Governor Ercan Topaca said they might have been planning an attack on the city. Police recovered weapons and explosives in the raid. The operation began after a man from Azerbaijan, thought to be an IS member, was detained in Istanbul. He allegedly drove the two men to Ankara. On May 22, *AP* quoted a senior official as saying that the duo planned to attack the ruling Justice and Development Party's congress which re-elected President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as its chairman. Police found sketches and diagrams.

**May 31:** On June 2 the Kurdish People's Defense Forces (HPG), the armed wing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, said it had shot down a Turkish military Cougar helicopter in Sirnak Province on May 31, killing all 13 on board. The Turkish military said the crash was an accident and that the helicopter had hit a high-voltage transmission line.

**June 9:** Kurdish rebels were blamed with two gunmen fired on a car belonging to the mayor of Kozluk, then blew up their vehicle near a military police station, killing one person and injuring four people. The attackers missed the mayor's vehicle but hit a second car, killing a teacher and slightly wounding another passenger. The terrorists drove their stolen car toward a military police station and set off a car bomb at a nearby roadblock, injuring two soldiers and a civilian. One of the gunmen died in the attack in Batman Province.

Kurds were suspected of firing rockets at a Sikorsky military helicopter in Hakkari Province, forcing an emergency landing. No one was injured.

**June 14:** *Anadolu* reported that a Turkish court convicted Aydin Sefa Akay, a Turkish national and United Nations judge, of membership in an armed terror group, sentencing him to seven and one half years in prison. Akay is a retired ambassador and a judge at the Hague-based UN Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT). Turkey accused him of links to U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom Turkey claims was behind the bloody failed coup in the summer of 2016. Akay was arrested in September 2016.

**June 22:** *Anadolu* reported that a small concussion bomb exploded at a graveyard adjacent to the walls of the grounds of a NATO military facility in Izmir, damaging perimeter walls but causing no injuries. 17062201

**June 27:** *Anadolu* reported that suspected Kurdish gunmen attacked a military vehicle that was taking food for troops at a military base in Sirnak Province, killing three soldiers.

**July 1:** *Anadolu* reported that Kurdistan Workers' Party gunmen were suspected of killing two ruling party officials serving in district organizations. Orhan Mercan, a vice president of an AKP branch in Diyarbakir Province, was shot near his house. Aydin Ahi, who was serving as vice president for a party branch in Van Province, was killed in the evening.

**July 7:** *Anadolu Agency* reported that police raided 20 sites in Istanbul and detained 29 suspected ISIS terrorists believed to have fought with ISIS in Syria and were making plans to return there. Some 22 detainees were foreigners. Police seized ISIS documents, digital material and a firearm.

**July 12:** *Anadolu* reported that police killed five IS terrorists and detained eight other terrorists in a firefight during a raid on a house in Konya. Four police officers were slightly wounded. Police seized a gun, five automatic rifles and a large amount of ammunition.

**July 13:** Istanbul governor Vasip Sahin said 44 people suspected of planning terror attacks linked to Kurdish militants were detained by police in four provinces and the capital. The group included an individual believed to have organized the December 2016 Kurdistan Freedom Falcons attack near a football stadium, killing 46 people. The governor said the man left the bomb-laden vehicle at the last minute. Another was believed to be the organizer of a Kurdistan Freedom Falcons car bomb attack on a bus carrying riot police in June 2016 that killed 11.

**July 14:** Police detained a man who hopped a fence and entered the grounds of the U.S. Consulate in Istanbul. *Hurriyet* said the suspect was not carrying any weapons, and allegedly said he was lost.

**July 17:** The military said Kurdish rebels set off a bomb as a military vehicle passed by in Yusekova in Hakkari Province, injuring 17 soldiers, four seriously.

**July 20:** A Turkish drone strike killed six Kurdish terrorists believed responsible for kidnapping and killing school teacher Necmettin Yilmaz in Nazimiye in Tunceli Province. The PKK was suspected of kidnapping him on June 16 when he was traveling from Tunceli to his hometown in northern Turkey. His body was discovered the previous week.

**July 25:** A Turkish Airlines plane en route to Casablanca from Istanbul made an emergency landing at Algiers airport after a female passenger claimed she had a bomb. No bomb was found. The woman is not Algerian; Algerian security services held her for questioning.

**July 26:** *Anadolu* reported on August 2 that authorities arrested a Frenchman for alleged links to a Syr-

ian Kurdish group that Turkey considers to be a terrorist organization. He was picked up on July 26 after he crossed into Turkey from Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region. Court officials ordered him arrested on charges of "aiding and assisting a terrorist organization." Police found pictures on a social media site showing the Frenchman posing with Syrian Kurdish militia.

**August:** On September 18 *AP* reported that Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told the *al-Monitor* news website that the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) captured two Turkish National Intelligence Organization agents who were on a mission in northern Iraq. He added that Ankara was not involved in direct talks. 17089901

**August 10:** Police detained Russian national and suspected ISIS member Renad Bakiev in Adana for allegedly planning a drone attack on U.S. aircraft at Turkey's Incirlik air base. *Dogan* reported that a court ordered him formally arrested pending a trial. The government said he also planned to attack the local Alevi community in Adana and that he had earlier traveled to Syria. Police said he requested 2,800 Turkish Lira (nearly $800) from other militants on the *Telegram* messaging application to buy a drone.

Police were following up on tipoffs from suspected ISIS members detained in a counterterror raid in June 2017. Among those arrested was the alleged commander of an Adana-based ISIS cell, Abdulkerim Cakar, 32, and ten others.

**August 12:** *Anadolu* reported that police arrested three men suspected of carrying out murders on behalf of a "Daesh (ISIS) execution team." Police conducted simultaneous operations in Sanliurfa, Gaziantep and Malatya Provinces. The counter-terror operations followed an investigation into a July drive-by shooting of a Syrian national in Sanliurfa. Police said the suspects had the gun used in that attack.

**August 13:** A suspected ISIS suicide bomber stabbed and killed a police officer, 24, while in custody in Istanbul. An anti-terror operation had detained a man thought to be planning a bomb attack for ISIS. He was being taken to the main Istanbul police station by two police officers when he fatally knifed an officer during the night. Police shot and killed the attacker outside the police station. Istanbul Police Chief Mustafa Caliskan said the attacker was an "internationally wanted terrorist."

**August 15:** *Anadolu* and *Hurriyet* reported that police in Istanbul the previous week arrested Belgian citizen Mehdi A., a suspected ISIS member wanted by Interpol. *Hurriyet* said authorities believe he arrived in Istanbul to carry out a "sensational act" and was sought by Interpol for the past three years. He was allegedly in charge of French-speaking militants within ISIS. The paper said he and his wife and children joined ISIS in Syria in 2014.

**August 31:** A bomb hidden in a garbage can exploded at 8:01 a.m. as a bus carrying prison staff passed by, injuring the bus driver and six people who worked at Izmir's maximum security Buca prison.

**September 6:** Police shot to death a suspected ISIS suicide bomber who was preparing to attack a police station in Mersin. He ignored police calls to stop, continued walking toward the complex, and appeared to be reaching for a cable dangling from his shoulder. Police defused his suicide vest. *DHA* said he was a 20-year-old Syrian refugee.

**September 16:** *Anadolu* reported that police detained 74 suspected ISIS members, 73 of them foreigners, in simultaneous operations at 15 different addresses in Istanbul.

**September 21:** *Anadolu* reported that the stabbed and strangled bodies of Syrian activist Arouba Barakat, 60, a member of the Syrian National Council, and her journalist daughter Hala Barakat, 23, a U.S. citizen who worked for the opposition's *Orient* news, were found dead in their Istanbul apartment in the Uskudar neighborhood during the night. *Hurriyet* reported that their throats were slit. Their bodies were covered with a chemical agent to hide the stench of decomposition. Friends worried when Aroutba did not show up for work. Hala Barakat grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina. ISIS claimed four previous killings of Syrian journalists in Turkey; a fifth journalist survived two attacks. On September 30, police detained two suspects. *Anadolu* reported that security cameras led police to a Syrian citizen in Bursa Province. He was allegedly the grandson of Arouba Barakat's uncle. Police also detained the suspect's former roommate, another Syrian. Police said that the main suspect travelled from Bursa to Istanbul on September 19 by boat and took public transportation to the district where the victims lived. He returned to Bursa the following day. 17092101

**September 23:** *Anadolu* reported that Istanbul police detained 36 people, including 31 foreigners, as alleged members of ISIS during raids at 15 addresses. Police had planned to apprehend five suspects who allegedly had travelled to Iraq and Syria for ISIS.

**October 4:** *Hurriyet* reported that PKK rebels were suspected of setting off a bomb on a road near Yusekova in Hakkari Province, close to the Iranian border, as a military vehicle was passing by, killing four soldiers and injuring four more.

**October 5:** *Anadolu* reported that police and gendarmerie forces spotted seven suspected PKK members and killed five of them in a forest area in Koycegiz, north of the resort of Marmaris near the Mediterranean coast. Two suspects escaped.

**October 17:** A bomb exploded under a police bus that was passing by in Mersin, wounding a dozen officers.

**November 2:** The military and Kurdish gunmen clashed in the morning near Semdinli after security forces spotted rebels allegedly preparing an attack. Eight Turkish security officials, including two government-paid village guards, and 19 gunmen died and two soldiers were hurt. Authorities seized several rocket launchers, ammunition, hand grenades, and an automatic rifle.

Nine rebels died in a gun battle in Tunceli Province.

Three rebels died in Sirnak Province.

Police detained 283 suspected Islamic State group militants, including 96 Turkish citizens and 187 foreign nationals, and seized 66 bombs in raids in 25 provinces in the past eleven days.

**November 3:** Police raided an apartment allegedly used by a PKK militant in Diyarbakir, sparking a gun battle that killed a police officer and the suspected rebel and wounded nine police officers. *Anadolu* reported that the gunman threw a hand grenade at the police.

**November 9:** *AP* and *Anadolu* reported that 1,500 officers from the police's anti-terror and intelligence units arrested more than 170 people suspected of ISIS links in early morning raids at some 250 addresses around Ankara. Authorities had detention warrants for 245 ISIS suspects.

**November 10:** *Anadolu* reported that police in Istanbul detained 100 people, including 82 foreigners, suspected of ISIS links.

Authorities in Adana Province detained eleven Syrians suspected of ISIS links.

Police arrested seven police in Izmir suspected of ISIS links.

**December 28:** *Anadolu* reported that anti-terrorism police detained 38 suspected ISIS members, including several Syrians, in simultaneous morning raids of homes in Bursa Province. Police broke down doors with battering rams.

*Dogan* reported that a "sound bomb" placed beneath an electrical pole by a person wearing a mask went off near a police station in Adana's Seyhan district at 7:10 p.m., causing no injuries.

# Ukraine

**March 23:** A gunmen killed former communist member of the lower house of the Russian parliament Denis Voronenkov, 45, near the entrance of an upscale hotel in in Kiev in what Ukrainian Prosecutor-General Yuriy Lutsenko suggested was a contract hit probably ordered by Russia, which wanted to punish him for his testimony to Ukrainian investigators. He had moved with his wife, singer/parliamentarian Maria Maksakova, to the Ukraine in the fall of 2016 and obtained Ukrainian citizenship. He testified to Ukrainian investigators as part of their probe into the activities of the nation's former Russia-leaning president, Viktor Yanukovych, who was ousted in February 2014. The gunman wounded Voronenkov's bodyguard, who fired back and wounded the gunman; both were hospitalized.

**March 29:** A shell was fired from a grenade launcher at the Polish Consulate in Lutsk during the early morning, causing no injuries.

**March 31:** Ukrainian Security Service Colonel Oleksandr Kharaberyush was killed when his car exploded in Mariupol. Authorities called it a terrorist act.

**June 8:** *UPI* quoted Kiev police as saying that shortly after midnight a bomb went off at the U.S. Embassy. No injuries were reported. Police called it terrorism, noting that "investigators found that an unknown person threw an unidentified explosive device on the territory of the diplomatic mission." The U.S. Embassy replied, "At this time, we do not consider this incident a terrorist act." 17060801

**June 27:** In the morning, a bomb went off under the car of a senior Ukrainian military intelligence officer in Kiev, killing Colonel Maxim Shapoval of the Chief Directorate of Intelligence and his driver and slightly injuring two passers-by. He was chief of military intelligence's special forces.

**October 25:** During the night, a bomb planted under a scooter went off near the entrance to the Internet tv station *Expresso* in Kiev, where Ihor Mosiychuk, a member of parliament with the nationalist Radical Party, was speaking. The explosion killed his bodyguard and a passerby and wounded five others including Mosiychuk, who was gravely injured. His surgery lasted three hours. Ukrainian authorities called the bombing an act of terrorism.

**October 30:** Adam Osmayev, a Chechen sought by Russia on charges of involvement in a foiled 2012 bomb plot to kill Russian President Vladimir Putin, was wounded in an ambush on a vehicle he was driving near Kiev. Osmayev's wife, Amina Okuyeva, was shot to death. 17103001

# United Kingdom

**January 4:** Counterterrorism officers at Heathrow Airport arrested a man, 50, on suspicion of possessing articles which contained information likely to be useful to a person planning an act of terrorism after he arrived in the UK on a flight from Cairo. Police also searched a property in north London.

**January 30:** Authorities at Manchester Airport arrested Nadeem Muhammad, 43, who had carried a pipe bomb inside the zip lining of his hand luggage. On August 8 *AP* reported that he was convicted by a jury at Manchester Crown Court of trying to smuggle explosives onto a plane by possessing explosives

with intent to endanger life or property. Muhammad said the bomb, made from masking tape, batteries and a marker pen tube, was planted by someone else. Prosecutors said he planned to detonate it during a Ryanair flight to Italy. Muhammad was born in Pakistan and has an Italian passport. Italy returned him to the UK, which arrested him. On August 23, Judge Patrick Field sentenced him to 18 years and criticized airport staff for making a "wholly erroneous and potentially dangerous" conclusion that the bomb wasn't viable. He was not arrested when he was initially stopped, and was permitted to fly to Italy several days later. He was arrested when he returned to the UK.

**March 6:** Mark Rowley, assistant commissioner for London's Metropolitan Police, said security and intelligence agencies deal with more than 500 investigations at any one time. British security forces thwarted 13 terrorist attacks in less than four years.

**March 20:** The Old Bailey court announced that Samata Ullah, 34, an ISIS-linked jihadi from Wales, pleaded guilty earlier in the month to five offenses after being found with incriminating information stored in a USB-equipped cuff link with a Linux operating system loaded onto it that was used to store extremist data, including a blog. He was arrested in September 2016. Among the charges was possession of an article for terrorist purposes. He provided instructional videos on how to protect sensitive data and remain anonymous online through encryption programs. Sentencing was to be determined.

**March 22:** *CNN* reported that at 2:40 p.m., a gray Hyundai SUV injured more than 50 people on London's Westminster Bridge, then crashed into a guardrail fence at Parliament's New Palace Yard at Carriage Gate. The British-born driver, Khalid Masood, 52, then pulled a knife, fatally stabbing police officer Keith Palmer, 48, before being shot to death by police. Four other people, including an American man and a British woman, died. The injured included three French students aged 15 or 16, from the Concarneau Lycee in Brittany and three police officers, two of whom had significant injuries. A seriously injured Romanian woman with lung damage and a blood clot on her brain was recovered from the River Thames near the bridge. Parliament was locked down. Tobias Ellwood, a Conservative Member of Parliament and an undersecretary at the Foreign Office, provided mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to Palmer, who was unarmed. Ellwood's brother Jon died in the 2002 bombings in Bali.

The SUV was rented from Enterprise in Birmingham.

ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency said the attacker was a "soldier of the Islamic State." Prime Minister Theresa May said the attacker had once been investigated for possible extremist links but was "not part of the current intelligence picture." He had earlier convictions for violence but not terrorist offenses. He was born Adrian Russell Ajao in Kent in southern England on December 25, 1964, and later lived in Luton and Birmingham. He had lived in West Midlands with his wife and young child. He had used several aliases, including Adrian Elms. He was arrested earlier for assault, possession of offensive weapons and public order offenses. His first conviction was in November 1983 for criminal damage and his last was in December 2003 for possession of a knife. The *Sun* tabloid reported that his résumé indicated that he worked as an English teacher in Saudi Arabia and then later back in the UK. Masood made three trips to Saudi Arabia—twice to teach English on a work visa from November 2005 to November 2006 and again from April 2008 to April 2009 and once in March 2015 on a visa usually granted to those going on a religious pilgrimage. He spent his final night in a Brighton hotel.

Police in London and Birmingham arrested eight people, aged from 21 to 58, overnight. They included a woman in east London; a man and a woman in Birmingham; a woman and three men arrested at a different location in Birmingham; and a man at a third address in Birmingham. Police also conducted searches in Brighton, southeast London, east London and Wales. On early March 24, they arrested a man and a woman in Manchester. By March 24, they had raided 21 sites, seized 2,700 items, interviewed 3,500 witnesses, and arrested ten people. *Reuters* reported that by April 1, the police had released all twelve people it had detained for questioning.

On March 23 at 9:33 a.m., Parliament, Scotland Yard and London's City Hall observed a minute of silence to honor the lives lost in the attack in honor of slain police officer Keith Palmer's shoulder number 933 on his uniform.

Among the dead were

- Police officer Keith Palmer, 48, a father of two, had been a member of the parliamentary and diplomatic protection forces for 15 years, and a soldier in the Royal Artillery before that.
- Aysha Frade, 43, a British mother of two daughters. She was walking on Westminster Bridge on her way to pick up her children. He mother was Spanish; her husband, Portuguese. Frade taught Spanish at nearby DLD College.
- Kurt W. Cochran, from Utah, who was in London with his wife Melissa celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. Melissa had several broken bones, including a broken leg and rib, and a cut to her head. The Mormon church said the couple was scheduled to return to the U.S. the next day after visiting her parents, who are Mormon missionaries in London. The couple ran a recording studio in the basement of their home outside Salt Lake City.

• Leslie Rhodes, 75, British man from south London, hospitalized for critical injuries, who was taken off life support the next day. He suffered several broken bones and never recovered from a coma. He was a retired window cleaner.

Of the 40 injured, 29 were hospitalized; seven were in critical condition. The injured included twelve Britons, three French schoolchildren, two Romanians, five South Koreans in their 50s and 60s, two Greeks, a German, a Pole, one Irish citizen, one Chinese citizen, an Italian woman from Rome who underwent surgery for a compound leg fracture and injury to two of her vertebrae near her neck and head trauma, a 26-year-old Portuguese man who had just finished his shift at a food store, and an American. The South Korean government said four of its citizens suffered broken bones and other injuries; a woman in her late 60s was operated on for a head injury. A Romanian man, the fiancé of the woman injured when she hit the river, had a foot fracture—they were celebrating his birthday. Australian media reported that a German citizen who lives in Australia had been injured. Portuguese citizen Francisco Lopes was cut on a knee and a hand. He had lived in London for 15 years.

On April 6 life support was shut off for Romanian architect Andreea Cristea, 31, who was injured when knocked off the bridge and into the River Thames. She was with her boyfriend, Andrei Burnaz, crossing Westminster Bridge. She sustained a blood clot in the brain. Burnaz had a broken foot. Also killed were Utah resident Kurt Cochran, 54, and Londoners Aysha Frade, 44, and Leslie Rhodes, 77. 17032202

**March 22:** The trial in the Old Bailey began of Naweed Ali, Khobaib Hussain, Mohibur Rahman and Tahir Aziz, all in their 20s or 30s, for preparing terrorist acts by trying to make a pipe bomb and planning an attack inspired by Islamic extremism. Prosecutor Gareth Patterson said that the men from central England were arrested in August 2016 after weapons were found in Ali's car, including shotgun cartridges, an imitation handgun and a meat cleaver with the word "kafir" ("infidel" in Arabic) etched onto the blade.

On August 2, a London court convicted Tahir Aziz, Naweed Ali, Mohibur Rahman and Khobaib Hussain, the self-named "Three Musketeers Plus One," for preparing terrorist acts, including a knife and bomb attack on troops or police, inspired by Islamic extremism, following a partly secret trial at the Old Bailey. On August 3, Judge Henry Globe sentenced Ali, Hussain and Rahman to life with no chance of parole for 20 years. Accomplice Aziz received a minimum 15-year-term. Ali, Hussain and Rahman met while serving prison terms for terrorism offenses. The trio from central England said police planted evidence. Ali and Hussain were represented by attorney Gareth Peirce.

**March 30:** Earlier in the month, the Leeds Crown Court convicted Mary Kaya, 57, of West Yorkshire of distributing a terrorist publication by retweeting a speech by ISIS leader al-Baghdadi. The mother of three's 21-month sentence was suspended on March 30.

**April 16:** Following a midnight dispute between two groups at the Mangle E8 nightclub in east London's Dalston area, a male threw acid at two men; 20 people were hospitalized with burns. Two men in their 20s were in serious but stable condition. *BBC* reported that police logged more than 1,800 reports of attacks involving corrosive fluids in London since 2010. In 2016, corrosive fluids were used in 454 crimes; 261 in 2015. Police said the attack did not appear to be gang-related. Police added on April 19 that they were searching for Arthur Collins, 25, the boyfriend of reality TV performer Ferne McCann, who has appeared on British reality shows *The Only Way is Essex* and *I'm a Celebrity … Get Me Out of Here*. She urged him to turn himself in. On April 22, police in Rushden arrested Collins on suspicion of attempted murder. On April 23, prosecutors charged Collins with 14 counts of wounding with intent to do severe bodily harm and one count of throwing corrosive fluid on a person with intent to cause harm. A second suspect was also charged.

**April 26:** Prosecutors at London's Central Criminal Court said university computer science student Damon Smith, 20, was accused of planting a homemade bomb on a London subway train with the intention of causing carnage. He left a knapsack filled with explosives and ball bearings on a London Underground train in October 2016. It contained wires poking out of a clock. It did not explode. Authorities said he had a form of autism and had searched online for ISIS material. He was raised Christian. Police found in his home photos of Smith posing with guns, including one on a laptop labeled "2016 an Islamic State fighter," and shredded paper with instructions from an AQAP article entitled "Make a bomb in the kitchen of your Mom." He pleaded guilty to perpetrating a bomb hoax.

**April 27:** Metropolitan Police arrested a man for possession of weapons near the Houses of Parliament.

Prosecutors said British citizen Haroon Syed, 19, accused of planning a bombing in London, pleaded guilty at London's Central Criminal Court to preparing terrorist acts. Prosecutors said he tried to buy weapons and explosives online from an extremist named Abu Yusuf, an alias used by a series of British intelligence agents. He wanted a machine gun and an explosive vest so he could "after some damage with machine gun do martyrdom," perhaps at Oxford Street and other locations, including an Elton John concert in Hyde Park on September 11, 2016. He was arrested on September 8, 2016. On July 3 Judge

Michael Topolski of London's Central Criminal Court sentenced Briton Haroon Syed, 19, to life with a minimum period of 16½ years in prison for plotting a bombing. Judge Topolski said Syed was deeply committed to the ideology of a brutal and barbaric organization that sought to hijack and corrupt an ancient and venerable religion for its own purposes"—ISIS. Defense lawyers said Syed had been vulnerable to radicalization, especially after the arrest of his elder brother Nadir, who in 2016 was sentenced to a minimum of 15 years in prison for plotting an ISIS-inspired beheading to coincide with Remembrance Sunday war commemorations. When police asked for the password to unlock his phone, Haroon replied: "Yeah, I.S.I.S. You like that?"

**April 28:** Police conducted antiterrorist raids in London and southeastern England, shooting and seriously injuring a woman, 21, and arresting six suspects involved in an imminent plot. Around 7 p.m., officers fired CS gas into a house in the Willesden area of northwest London. A 20-year-old woman and a 16-year-old boy were arrested at the address where the woman was shot, as was a 20-year-old man nearby. A man and a woman, both aged 28, were arrested when they returned to the house later. A 43-year-old woman in Kent County was also arrested. They were held on suspicion of preparation of terrorist acts. *AP* reported on April 30 that British police said they had arrested a woman who was shot on suspicion of preparing or instigating terrorism acts after she was discharged from the hospital. Police obtained warrants to further detain the six suspects until May 4. *AP* reported on May 1 that in the morning, police arrested three women, two age 18, one age 19, on suspicion of preparing terrorist attacks.

**May 2:** A court sentenced Samata Ullah, 34, of Cardiff, Wales, to eight years in jail for possession of articles for terrorist purposes and other charges. He had pleaded guilty to five offenses in March, admitting ISIS membership. He had concealed incriminating information in USB-equipped cufflinks. Metropolitan Police Commander Dean Haydon said Ullah "set up a self-help library for terrorists around the world…. There was guidance on encryption, ways to avoid detection from police and security services, expert tuition around missile systems and a vast amount of propaganda." Kenyan authorities learned about Ullah after arresting a suspect who had been in regular contact with him, alerted the FBI, who in turn contacted the British.

**May 3:** A jury found guilty university computer science student Damon Smith, 20, who built a bomb at home with a 2-pound ($2.58) clock from Tesco and planted it on a busy London subway train. He had Googled the AQAP *Inspire* article "Make a bomb in the kitchen of your mom." He admitted the lesser offence of making a bomb hoax.

**May 17:** The Metropolitan Police arrested four men aged 18, 24, 25 and 27 in east London on suspicion under the Terrorism Act on suspicion of "the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism." Counterterrorism police and MI5 officers searched five homes and a business in east London.

**May 22:** *NPR* and the *Washington Post 202* reported that a suicide bomber killed 22 and injured 119 fans, 20 critically, leaving the foyer of the 21,000-seat Manchester Arena at the end of American pop singer Ariana Grande's concert, part of her Dangerous Woman tour. A dozen children under age 16 were injured by the 10:35 p.m. explosion. Grande, 23, was unharmed. UK officials said the British bomber was Manchester-born Salman Abedi, 22, of Libyan descent. On May 23, police arrested his brother, Ismail, and another man, 23. ISIS said on *Telegram* that one of its soldiers was responsible. Concertgoers, many wearing kitten/bunny ears like Grande, saw nuts and bolts on the ground, designed to cause massive casualties. Numerous fake reports of missing children were posted on social media sites. Prime Minister Theresa May raised the terrorist threat level to its highest—critical—saying another attack could be imminent.

Abedi lived at a house in Fallowfield, southern Manchester. During a search, police conducted a controlled detonation to knock down his door. The British electoral roll listed Salman Abedi and Ismail Abedi as current residents of the house. Police arrested Salman's brother, Ismail, 23. In the south Manchester suburb of Chorlton, police arrested a 23-year-old man in a supermarket, then searched an apartment in a nearby area.

The dead included

- John Atkinson, 26, a former Bury College student from the Greater Manchester area who was a member of the Freak Dance Radcliffe studio.
- Courtney Boyle, 19, from Gateshead, died alongside her stepfather, Philip Tron.
- Kelly Brewster, 32, from Sheffield, was at the concert with her sister and niece, who were wounded. Her partner was Ian John Winslow.
- Georgina Callander, 18, who had been photographed with Grande at a 2015 venue. She was in the second year of a three-year health and social care course at Runshaw College in Leyland. She earlier was a student at Bishop Rawstorne Church of England Academy in Croston, northwest of Manchester.
- Olivia Campbell-Hardy, 15, a Tottington High School student who went to the concert with friend Adam on his birthday. Her friend underwent surgery.
- Wendy Fawell from Otley.
- Martyn Hett, 29, a PR digital manager for

Rumpus from Greater Manchester's Stockport suburb. He was named Son of the Year on *Buzzfeed* and the *Today Show* in December 2016 after his *Twitter* campaign to save his mother's knitting career went viral. He had appeared on the reality TV shows *Tattoo Fixers* and *Come Dine with Me*.

- Alison Howe, 45, and Lisa Lees, 47, friends from Manchester's Royton suburb, who were waiting to pick up their daughters from the concert. Alison was survived by her husband, Steve, and daughter, Darcy.
- Megan Hurley, 15, a student at Halewood Academy.
- Nell Jones, 14, from Cheshire, who attended Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College. A friend, Year 9 student Freya Lewis, underwent 10½ hours of surgery.
- Michelle Kiss, from Lancashire, was the mother of three. The *Daily Mirror* reported that she attended the concert with her daughter, who was reported to be safe and was photographed being hugged by a police officer.
- Marcin Klis, 42, and Angelika Klis, 40, a Polish couple who lived in York and whose daughter Alex attended York College. They had driven 70 miles to pick up their two daughters—one a minor, one an adult—from the concert. The daughters were unharmed. Marcin Klis lived in York, worked for York cars Taxi Service and came from the Polish town of Darlowo on the Baltic Sea. He vacationed in Egypt with his family in 2015. Another Polish citizen underwent surgery and survived.
- Sorrell Leczkowski, 14, from Adel, who attended Allerton High School and wanted to be an architect and attend Columbia University. She was with her mother and grandmother, who were both injured. Her grandmother, Pauline, was in intensive care. Her mother, Samantha, went into surgery.
- Lisa Lees, 47, a mother from Royton, who was waiting for her daughter, India, in the foyer with her friend, Alison Howe. Lees's father had recently died.
- Eilidh MacLeod, 14, from the Scottish island of Barra, who played bagpipes with a pipe band. Her friend Laura MacIntyre, 15, was hospitalized with serious injuries. Eilidh attended Castlebay Community School.
- Elaine McIver, 43, an off-duty Cheshire Police officer, was at the concert with her partner, Paul, who was wounded. Her two children were also hurt.
- Saffie Rose Roussos, 8, from Leyland, possibly the youngest victim. Her mother, Lisa, and older sister, Ashlee Broomwich, in her 20s, were hospitalized. She attended Tarleton Community Primary School in the village of Tarleton, Lancashire. The *Daily Telegraph* reported that her parents were thought to run a fish-and-chip shop.
- Chloe Rutherford, 17, and boyfriend Liam Curry, 19, who traveled together and explore new cities, were from South Shields. Curry was a cricket player who was studying sport and exercise science at Northumbria University.
- Philip Tron, 32, Courtney Boyle's stepfather.
- Jane Tweddle, a mother of three daughters from Blackpool who worked as a receptionist at South Shore Academy, had gone to Manchester with a friend to pick up the friend's daughter.

Among the injured was Stephanie Buckley, 15, who sustained a concussion and crush injuries. Her father, off-duty police constable Michael Buckley, 47, treated the wounded while he searched for her.

British authorities told the media that they were outraged by American leaks of information regarding the bombing. President Trump ordered the Department of Justice to investigate the leaks.

Police suggested that the bomber was part of a network, noting the sophistication of the device. Authorities in Tripoli arrested the bomber's father and his brother, Hashem, 18, who confessed to knowing "all the details" of the plot, according to Libyan anti-terror authorities. Libya believed Hashem had Islamic State links and was planning an attack in Libya. French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said Abedi was believed to have gone to Syria and had "proven" ISIS links. Investigators were looking into possible ties to Mohamed Abrini, who had connections to earlier Brussels and Paris attacks and who visited Manchester in 2015. Police arrested six other people on May 24.

Abedi was born and raised in the UK. His father, Ramadan Abedi, 51, alias Abu Ismail, returned to Libya in 2011 for the anti–Qadhafi revolution. Arab media suggested that the father was linked to Libyan Islamist rebels. His mother returned to Libya in the past few months. The family had three boys and a girl. He studied business and management in 2015–2016 at the University of Salford, Manchester's third largest university, but had not attended classes in the current semester.

The father said Salman visited Libya six weeks earlier and planned to spend Ramadan with the family. He denied that Salman had been to Syria. Salam attended the Manchester Islamic Center, also known as the Didsbury Mosque.

Ramadan Abedi had worked as a security officer under Qadhafi's rule, but fled to Saudi Arabia in 1993 after he was accused of tipping off jidhadis to police raids. He denied links to the al-Qaeda-connected Libya Islamic Fighting Group or any other militant groups; former Libyan security official Abdel-Basit Haroun claimed that Ramadan was a member of the now-disbanded LIFG in the 1990s. After less than a

year in Saudi Arabia, he sought political asylum in the UK, living there for 25 years. *AP* reported that the family was close to the family of the late al-Qaeda senior member Abu Anas al-Libi. His wife said she attended college in Tripoli with Ramadan's wife, who was studying nuclear engineering. The two women also lived together in the UK for years. Ramadan was appointed administrative manager of Tripoli Central Security forces, part of the UN-recognized government. Libyan authorities arrested Ramadan on May 23.

During the evening of May 24, authorities arrested a female suspect in Manchester and a man in Nuneaton in the English Midlands. With the May 25 morning arrests of two men in Manchester, authorities were now holding eight suspects in the case. A suspect carrying a "suspicious package" was picked up in Wigan, 20 miles west of Manchester.

A German security official told the *Washington Post* that Salman Abedi had been in Düsseldorf four days before the bombing. *Der Tagesspiegel* reported that Abedi flew from Düsseldorf to Manchester on May 18. He had visited Frankfurt in 2015.

*AP* reported on May 25 that a relative in Libya claimed that Abedi was upset by what he deemed unjust treatment of Arabs in the UK, saying in a phone call "forgive me."

*AP* added on May 25 that police were examining any ties of Abedi to Abdalraouf Abdallah, a Libyan jailed in the UK for terrorist offenses, and Raphael Hostey, an ISIS recruiter killed in Syria.

By May 27, British authorities had detained eleven men aged between 18 and 44, searched 17 properties, and released several photos of Abedi immediately before the bombing. The most recent arrests were of two men, aged 20 and 22. Police used an explosive device to get into a property where they were hiding. Authorities arrested a 12th man, age 25, in Manchester on May 28. *Reuters* reported that by May 29, police had arrested 16 people, two of whom were released without charge. Another three men, aged 20, 24, and 37, were freed on May 30. Police said it appeared that Abedi acted largely alone in making the bomb.

By June 3 police had arrested 17 people in the Manchester attack. On the night of June 5, police at London's Heathrow Airport arrested a 38-year-old man. *CBS News* reported on June 12 that all 22 suspects were released without charge.

The *New York Times* reported on June 4 that during a visit to Sabratha, Libya in May, he was in contact with the ISIS-linked Katibat al-Battar al-Libi group that had been headquartered in Syria was apparently was involved in earlier attacks in Europe. 17052201

**June 3:** At 10:08 p.m., a rented white van traveling at 50 miles per hour jumped the sidewalk of London Bridge and hit a group of pedestrians. A witness saw a person jump off the bridge into the water. Witnesses heard gunshots at the bridge at 10:30 p.m. Once the van crashed at around 10:40 p.m., three men got out, walked into bars and restaurants at London's Borough Market, south of the Bridge, and stabbed two people using long knives. Patrons threw chairs, bottles and glasses at the attackers. *CNN* reported that police fired 50 rounds to shoot dead the three terrorists within eight minutes of the first stabbing. Eight victims were killed. At least 48, including two police officers, were taken to six hospitals. Hospitals said 21 were critically injured. What initially appeared to be suicide vests with metal canisters were hoaxes. By the next morning, police had arrested a dozen suspects, including five men and six women, ranging from ages 19 to 60, at one address, and a 38-year-old woman at another address in east London's Barking neighborhood; police released a 55-year-old man.

ISIS claimed credit.

Metropolitan Police responded to a stabbing in London's Vauxhall area, a mile from the other scenes, and said it was not related to the other two attacks.

President Trump tweeted "We need to be smart, vigilant and tough. We need the courts to give us back our rights. We need the Travel Ban as an extra level of safety!" and later tweeted "Whatever the United States can do to help out in London and the U. K., we will be there—WE ARE WITH YOU. GOD BLESS!"

The dead included

- Canadian social worker Chrissy Archibald, 30, who died in the arms of her fiancé, Tyler Ferguson. She had recently moved to the Netherlands to be with him. They were engaged three months earlier. She was born and raised in Castlegar, British Columbia. She worked at the Alpha House homeless shelter in Calgary, Alberta. She earlier was an award-winning social work student at Calgary's Mount Royal University. Her family posted, "Please honor her by making your community a better place. Volunteer your time and labor or donate to a homeless shelter. Tell them Chrissy sent you." This generated the hashtags: #ChrissySentYou and #Chrissy SentMe.
- French citizen Sebastien Belanger, 36, had been in London for seven years, working as a chef. He died at Boro Bistro.
- Australian Kirsty Boden, 28, from Loxton, who worked in the UK as a nurse. She was killed while trying to assist other victims.
- Ignacio Echeverria, 39, a Spanish banker who worked as a financial risks analyst for HSBC in London since 2015. He had confronted the terrorists

with a skateboard. He had studied law in Madrid and Paris, worked briefly in Brussels, then returned to Spain. Spain's Cabinet granted him the Grand Cross of the Order of Civil Merit, the country's highest civilian honor.

- James McMullan, 32, whose bank card was found at the scene.
- Alexandre Piegeard, 27, a French man from Caen in Normandy, had been in London for 2½ years. He had trained in winemaking, and took café jobs in Caen and Brussels, then settled in London. He was slashed in the neck at Boro Bistro.
- Xavier Thomas, 45, a French man who was walking with his girlfriend over the bridge. His body was found in the river on June 7. His girlfriend was struck and seriously injured by the van.
- Sara Zelenak, 21, an Australian nanny who worked in London, caring for two young boys.

The injured included

- eight French citizens, four seriously. They included Marine Vincent, a pharmaceutical doctor who works in London.
- a New Zealander who was put into an induced coma.
- three Australians, including an Australian tourist and Candice Hedge, 31, who was stabbed in the neck and was unable to speak.
- German citizens, some seriously.
- A Spanish man.
- Two on-duty Metropolitan Police officers from London's Southwark borough.
- Charlie Guenigault, 25, an off-duty Metropolitan Police officer from Southwark who had a serious head injury. He ran toward the attackers and helped the injured.
- Roy, the Lion of London, who fought the terrorists with his bare hands. They stabbed him in the neck eight times. He saved numerous lives.
- a British Transport Police officer who was stabbed in the eye and leg. He confronted the terrorists, armed only with his baton. He joined the force less than three years ago. He said, "I feel like I did what any other person would have done," he said. "I want to say sorry to the families that lost their loved ones. I'm so sorry I couldn't do more and I want you to know I did everything I could."
- Briton Daniel O'Neill, 23, who was stabbed in the abdomen.
- Geoff Ho, business editor of the British newspaper *Sunday Express*, who was wounded in the neck and throat as he intervened to protect a bouncer in the doorway of the Southwark Tavern.
- a civilian who was wounded by police friendly fire.

The *Washington Post* reported on June 5 that police named two of the terrorists as Khuram Shazad Butt, 27, a Pakistan-born British citizen; and Rachid Redouane, alias Rachid Elkhdar, 30, who had claimed to be Moroccan and Libyan. Redouane also had listed his age as 25. They lived 30 miles from the scene in Barking.

*CNN* reported that Butt was a follower of al-Muhajiroun, a group of British ISIS supporters. *AP* reported that he had been featured in "The Jihadis Next Door" *Channel 4* documentary in 2016. He used the aliases Abz and Abu Zaitun while meeting with *CNN's* Sandi Sidhu several times between 2014 and 2016. Also in the "Jihadis" documentary was Abu Rumaysah, a Briton believed to be a masked terrorist in a January 2016 ISIS execution video. Butt worked as a receptionist at a Muslim fitness center in Ilford that specialized in mixed martial arts. He also worked at Kentucky Fried Chicken. He had failed his probationary period as a customer service clerk for the Transport of London. He was linked to Anjem Choudary, a hate preacher for the now-banned al-Muhajiroun, which was linked to one of Butt's alleged connections, Sajeel Shahid. Shadid alleged gave al-Qaeda training to Mohammed Siddique Khan, one of the July 7, 2005, suicide bombers in London. On June 6, Pakistani authorities in Jhelum, where Khurum Butt lived until age seven, detained his uncle for questioning. Butt's wife had recently given birth.

The *Guardian* reported that Redouane was a Dublin-based pastry chef who lived there for five years and recently moved to east London's Dagenham suburb. He married Charisse O'Leary, who said on *Facebook* that he ignored their young daughter. The couple was believed to be estranged. She was among the people arrested after the attacks.

The *Washington Post* reported on June 6 that British police said the third attacker was Youssef Zaghba, 22, an Italian national of Moroccan descent living in east London. He was not a police or MI5 subject of interest, although *Corriere della Sera* claimed that Italian intelligence had tipped off the UK about Zaghba's presence and frequent travels, noting he tried to go to Syria in 2016 via Bologna. The *Post* said a senior Italian police official said Zaghba was born in Fez, Morocco in January 1995 to a Moroccan father and Italian mother, and had lived in Italy. He had been flagged at Bologna's Marconi Airport en route to Syria via Turkey on March 15, 2016, because he had only a one-way ticket and a backpack. He initially told authorities he planned to become a "terrorist." His phone contained ISIS propaganda. An Italian court found a lack of evidence and dropped terrorism charges. He had worked in a London restaurant. His mother said he was radicalized within the year.

On June 7, police arrested three people in Ilford regarding the attack. Police arrested two men, 27 and 28, overnight on June 9 in east London on suspicion of preparing acts of terrorism. Police arrested a 19-year-old man the night of June 11 in Barking on suspicion of violating the Terrorism Act.

*AP* reported on June 10 that Butt had tried to rent a larger, 7.5-ton, truck, but his payment was declined. Police believed Butt drove the van. Police found petrol bombs—wine bottles filled with flammable liquid with rags wrapped around them—and two blow torches inside the van and a Koran opened to a page describing martyrdom at the home of one of the attackers. 17060302

**June 8:** Police in east London arrested six men on terrorism offenses. Three were held on suspicion of the commission, preparation or instigation of terrorism offenses. They were not connected to the London Bridge attack.

**June 19:** A burly white male driver, 47, yelling that he wanted to "kill more Muslims" crashed his van into a crowd of worshippers leaving midnight tawaween prayers during Ramadan at London's Finsbury Mosque and the Muslim Welfare House on Seven Sisters Road, injuring eleven, nine of whom were hospitalized. Two had serious injuries. The attacker jumped out of the van and tried to run, but was detained by pedestrians. Muslim Welfare House CEO Toufik Kacimi said the attacker shouted, "I did my bit, you deserve it." Imam Mohammed Mahmoud of the Muslim Welfare House kept the van driver from being beaten by the crowd. The driver was held on charges of attempted murder. One person who was receiving first aid before the attack began later died; the van had run over the legs of Makram Ali, 51, who died in his daughter's arms. *CNN* said the attacker was Darren Osborne of Cardiff. Authorities announced that the van had been rented from Pontyclun Van Hire in south Wales. Security Minister Ben Wallace said the Osborne "did not appear on the security services' radar" and "we didn't have any prior knowledge of him from the security services." Neighbors called him a drunken lout who made anti–Islamic slurs. On June 23, authorities charged Osborne with terrorism-related murder and attempted murder in connection. London police linked Ali's death to the mosque attack, saying he died of "multiple injuries."

**June 28:** Spain's Interior Ministry announced that UK police in Birmingham arrested a suspected ISIS member, identified as a Salafist imam, 44, who led a group whose members were also picked up in Germany and Spain. Spain had requested the arrest.

**July 13:** During a 90-minute nighttime spree, men on mopeds threw acid at five people in five locations in London, injuring several people. In the first attack, two men on a moped threw a noxious substance into the face of a 32-year-old moped driver, then jumped on his vehicle and fled in east London. The other people on mopeds suffered in similar attacks. *CNN* reported that four attacks occurred in the eastern borough of Hackney, and one other in Islington, in the city's north. One man in his 20s sustained life-changing facial injuries. Two victims were drivers for food delivery services Deliveroo and UberEATS. Metropolitan Police the next day arrested a 15-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy on suspicion of robbery and grievous bodily harm. One was arrested near the scene of an attack, the other at an east London address. Metropolitan Police said reported attacks with corrosive liquids rose from 166 in 2014 to 261 in 2015 to 454 in 2016. On July 16, Metropolitan Police charged the 16-year-old with 15 offenses, including grievous bodily harm. The 15-year-old was released on bail.

**July 14:** Judge David Stockdale sentenced British citizen Benjamin Stimson to five years and four months for terrorism offenses. He had joined a pro–Russian militia in the Ukraine in 2015, and later posted on *Facebook* a photo of himself with an assault rifle. He admitted assisting others in committing acts of terrorism.

**July 31:** Judge Nigel Sweeney sentenced former Royal Marine Ciaran Maxwell, 31, to 18 years in prison for a series of terrorism-related offenses. Maxwell was an undercover bombmaker for dissident Irish republicans and had infiltrated the military. He pleaded guilty to preparation of terrorist acts between January 2011 and August 2016, possessing images of bank cards for fraud and possessing marijuana. He had hidden anti-personnel mines, mortars and 14 pipe bombs in 43 hideouts in Northern Ireland and England.

**August 25:** A man drove a van at police outside Buckingham Palace, then reached for a four-foot sword and shouted "Allahu Akbar." Three Metropolitan Police officers were slightly injured as they were attempting to arrest him during the evening. Officers used tear gas to incapacitate the man and arrested him at the scene. He was held on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and assaulting police. The suspect was hospitalized with minor injuries. London police arrested a second man, 30, in west London on August 27 on suspicion of involvement in terrorism in connection with what detectives called a terrorism attempt. On August 31, London's Metropolitan police charged Mohiussunnath Choudhury, 26, from Luton in north London, with engaging in the preparation to commit an act or acts of terrorism. He appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court.

**September 5:** The West Midlands Counterterrorism Unit said officers had arrested four serving members of the army under the Terrorism Act on suspicion of being members of the banned neo–Nazi National Action. An official list of banned groups described NA as "virulently racist, anti–Semitic and homophobic." The men were suspected of "being concerned in the commission, preparation and instigation" of terrorism acts. They were held as part of a "pre-planned and

intelligence-led" operation. Membership or inviting support for National Action carries a ten-year sentence. The group was linked to the murder of Labour parliamentarian Jo Cox in 2016.

**September 15:** ISIS said an affiliated unit was responsible when a time bomb partially detonated at 8:20 a.m. in a London subway car on the District Line at the Parsons Green station in the Fulham neighborhood, hospitalizing 30 rush-hour commuters who were treated for non-life-threatening flash burns and smoke inhalation. A photograph on social media showed a white bucket beside a Lidl shoulder bag on fire. Police said the device was loaded with explosives and shrapnel. ISIS claimed that other bombs had been hidden throughout London.

Three hours later, President Trump tweeted: "Another attack in London by a loser terrorist. These are sick and demented people who were in the sights of Scotland Yard. Must be proactive!" "Loser terrorists must be dealt with in a much tougher manner." "The internet is their main recruitment tool which we must cut off & use better!" "the travel ban into the United States should be far larger, tougher and more specific-but stupidly, that would not be politically correct!" Prime Minister Theresa May told *ABC News* that it is not "helpful for anybody to speculate on … an ongoing investigation."

*NPR* reported that Kent police arrested and held for questioning under the Terrorism Act an 18-year-old Iraqi refugee in the port area of Dover. A local council chief said he thought the 18-year-old was an Iraqi orphan who moved to the UK three years earlier. Police raided a rowhouse on Cavendish Road in Sunbury-on-Thames, west of London. *BBC* reported that the couple who owns and lives in the house that was searched, Ronald Jones, 88, and Penelope Jones, 71, were foster parents for "hundreds of children, including refugees." They were awarded for their service with honors from Queen Elizabeth II in 2010. On September 22, the Metropolitan Police charged Ahmed Hassan with attempted murder and causing an explosion by planting the bomb. He was accused of attempting to "murder persons traveling on a District Line train" and of using TATP to cause an explosion likely to endanger life.

The *Washington Post* and *New York Times* reported that just before midnight on September 16, police in Dover, Kent County, arrested a 21-year-old man believed to be from Syria in Hounslow, west London, under section 41 of the Terrorism Act. Police searched a home in London's Stanwell suburb, linked to the arrest of the second suspect. The 18-year-old and 21-year-old were fostered by the Jones couple. British media on September 20 reported that one of the original detainees was Yahyah Farroukh, 21, from Damascus, Syria, who was studying at a regional college in the UK and had traveled recently to the Middle East. The Syrian refugee's employer said Farroukh's mother suffered a heart attack after hearing of her son's arrest. Authorities released two of the men, including Farroukh, without charge on September 21.

On September 19, police in Newport, Wales arrested a man, 25, during the evening under the Terrorism Act and searched a property.

On September 20, British counterterror police detectives arrested a 48-year-old man and a 30-year-old man under the Terrorism Act in Newport, Wales. The 48-year-old was released the next day.

Police arrested a 17-year-old in south London on September 21.

Police in Wales arrested a 20-year-old man in Cardiff, Wales under the Terrorism Act.

By September 26, police had released six of the seven suspects—Ahmed Hassan, 18, remained in custody, charged with attempted murder and other crimes. 17091502

**September 27:** Counter-terror police arrested eleven men aged from 22 to 35 in various locales in England and Wales for offenses ranging from preparation of a terrorist act to funding terrorism as part of an investigation into the far-right group National Action.

On October 26, Greater Manchester Police announced that Christopher Lythgoe, 31, the leader of the banned neo–Nazi National Action group, and five other members charged with belonging to a proscribed organization under the Terrorism Act. Lythgoe was charged with encouragement to commit murder. The six men were among eleven people arrested across the U.K. on September 27. Their hearing in Westminster Magistrates' Court in London was set for September 28. The government banned the group in 2016 for being a "virulently racist, anti–Semitic and homophobic" neo–Nazi group. Police said the group plotted to kill Labour Member of Parliament Rosie Cooper. A 22-year-old man was charged with "the intention of committing acts of terrorism contrary to section 5 of the Terrorism Act 2006 and threats to kill."

**September 28:** In London's Old Bailey court, Judge Rebecca Poulet sentenced Muslim cleric Kamran Hussain to six and one half years for sermons backing ISIS and encouraging terrorism. Police recorded him in 2016 telling children that martyrdom was better than school. Hussain preached at a charity-funded mosque in Stoke-on-Trent, West Midlands.

**October 26:** Birmingham married couple Madihah Taheer and her husband, Ummariyat Mirza, both 21, who traded phone messages about carrying out beheadings, were convicted of preparing an act of terrorism in Britain. She was convicted on October 26; Mirza pleaded guilty to the same charge at an earlier hearing. They were inspired by ISIS. Prosecutors said they bought a hunting knife to carry out an attack, and a training dummy to practice on. Jurors were

shown messages the couple exchanged. One message Taheer sent to Mirza in 2015 read: "Can we get married already…. I want u to kill ppl for me. I have a list." The couple were scheduled to be sentenced along with Mirza's sister, who admitted sending extremist videos, on December 1.

**November 22:** *AP* reported on December 20 that alleged ISIS supporter Husnain Rashid, 31, who on November 22 was arrested and charged with preparing and assisting others to prepare terrorist acts when he shared a photo of Prince George, 4, and details about his pre-school on *Telegram*, was scheduled to go on trial for four weeks in London starting on April 30, 2018. Prosecutors alleged he planned to go to Syria to join ISIS.

On December 6, *NBC News* reported that would-be ISIS fighter Husnain Rashid, from Lancashire, northern England, appeared in a British court accused of assisting in a plot to attack Prince George, 4, the eldest child of Prince William and his wife, Kate, also known as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Prosecutors said the unemployed web designer posted details of the elementary school attended by Queen Elizabeth II's great-grandson and uploaded a photo of the child alongside a black silhouette of a jihadi fighter and the caption: "Even the royal family will not be left alone." He allegedly planned to join ISIS in Syria. He was charged with preparing acts of terrorism and assisting others to commit acts of terrorism. His next court appearance was scheduled for December 20.

**November 24:** *CNN* and *AP* reported that London police responded to numerous reports of gunfire at the Oxford Circus underground station. No gunman was found. Two men, aged 21 and 40, wanted for questioning turned themselves in to police the next day. Authorities believed the duo had a confrontation on the Oxford Circus subway platform. Several people were injured and nine were taken to hospital, including one with leg injuries, during the ensuing panic.

**November 27:** *Reuters* reported that a Briton, 17, was found guilty of planning to drive a car into a crowd in Cardiff, Wales, with a Justin Bieber concert and a shopping center among the list of possible targets. He wrote a "martyrdom letter" claimed to be "a soldier of the Islamic State." Police found the letter, large knife and a hammer in a rucksack in his bedroom. Sue Hemming, head of the special crime and counter terrorism division at the Crown Prosecution Service, said, "This teenager's behavior over many months leaves no doubt that he intended to kill and maim as many people as possible in an attack reminiscent of the incident on Westminster Bridge…. He was also posting extremist content online that could have encouraged others to commit terrorist acts and downloading instructions on how to carry out 'lone wolf' attacks." He posted ISIS propaganda on his *Instagram* account; his password was "Truck Attack." He researched possible targets such as Cardiff Castle, a theater, a library, a shopping center, and the June Bieber concert. Sentencing was scheduled for January 2018.

**November 28:** The Metropolitan Police Counter Terrorism Command arrested two would-be ISIS assassins on November 28 in London and Birmingham. *AP* and *SkyNews* reported that Naa'imur Zakariyah Rahman, 20, from north London, was remanded in custody on December 5 at Westminster Magistrates' Court after being accused in a plot to assassinate Prime Minister Theresa May by planting a bomb near the entrance of 10 Downing Street and then continuing the attack with a knife and suicide vest. He was charged with preparing acts of terrorism and appeared alongside Mohammed Aqib Imran, 21, from southeast Birmingham, who was accused of trying to join ISIS but was not charged in connection with the assassination plot. Rahman was accused of assisting Imran in terror planning. Rahman, a Bangladeshi, was later accused of conducting reconnaissance of the target, recording a pledge of allegiance to a terrorist group, and purchasing a backpack to be fitted with an improvised explosive device. His five-week trial was scheduled to begin on June 4, 2018, with a plea hearing.

**December 19:** In the morning, police from the North East Counter Terrorism Unit arrested four men aged from 22 to 41 at their homes in Sheffield and Chesterfield in northern England on suspicion of plotting terrorist attacks. Two men, both Kurdish Iraqis, were charged with engaging in the preparation of an act of terrorism, and were to appear in court in January 2018. One of the four was freed; the other remained in custody. Police arrested but did not charge a fifth man, 21, the evening of December 30. Police searched two more buildings in Sheffield.

# Vatican City

**November 16:** *CNN* and *Newsweek* reported that the pro–ISIS Wafa Media Foundation released a propaganda poster calling on followers to attack the Vatican on Christmas, showing a BMW driving into St. Peter's Basilica, with a photo of previous ISIS executioner Mohammed Emwazi, alias Jihadi John, in the rearview mirror.

# Latin America and Caribbean

## Brazil

**May 4:** Federal Judge Marcos Josegrei da Silva sentenced eight men to between six and 15 years in prison for planning an attack in the run up to the 2016 Summer Olympics. His 100-page opinion included screen shots of the men extolling ISIS online. Group leader Leonid el-Kadre, 33, received 15 years and 10 months.

## Chile

**August 28:** Before dawn, hooded men burned 29 trucks belonging to the privately owned Chilean company Sotraser SA in San Jose de La Mariquina in the Los Rios region. Violence was mainly directed at large loggers in the area, a land that centuries ago belonged to the Mapuche native Chileans. A week earlier, 18 trucks were torched in neighboring areas. A handwritten pamphlet signed by the Mapuche group Weichan Auka Mapu was left at the site. The group has claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks in the bordering Araucania region. A radical faction of Mapuche in Araucania occupied and burned farms and lumber trucks to demand the return of land.

## Colombia

**January 18:** The National Liberation Army (ELN) agreed to free former Governor Patrocinio Sanchez Montes de Oca, who had been exchanged for his older brother Odin Sanchez, a former congressman. The governor was held captive for ten months. His release set the stage to begin postponed peace talks in Ecuador on February 7. In turn, the government was to free two jailed ELN rebels. On February 2, the ELN turned hostage Odin Sanchez over to a humanitarian commission including members of the International Committee of the Red Cross, a key condition for the start of peace talks with the government. In April 2016, the Quibdo resident traded himself for his ailing brother, whom ELN had kidnapped a few months earlier. The government simultaneously released two jailed ELN leaders.

**February 19:** A bomb left in a sewer outside the new El Pit youth hostel popular with foreign backpackers exploded near Bogota's bullring, killing a police officer and injuring 26 people, including 24 riot police officers and two civilians. The bomb went off hours before a scheduled bullfight. Police in riot gear were gathering ahead of a demonstration by animal rights activists. On February 27 the ELN claimed credit.

**April 8:** The dissident First Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) set off a bomb during the night in Guaviare Department against an army and police patrol, killing a soldier and wounding three soldiers.

**May:** *AP* reported on July 5 that the Defense Ministry posted that a dissident faction of leftist rebels had released a contractor working for the UN's drug agency who was taken captive in May.

**May 3:** During the night, a dissident FARC group kidnapped a Colombian citizen working on a UN crop substitution project in Guaviare State during a visit by the UN Security Council to show support for the recent peace deal. The UN was trying to negotiate his release. 17050303

**June 17:** Bogota's Centro Andino shopping center was evacuated after a 5:30 p.m. explosion in a second-floor women's restroom killed three people, including French woman Julie Huynh, 25, and injured nine people. Huynh had been in Bogota for six months, volunteering for the French-supported Proyectar Sin Fronteras charity at a school for the displaced in a poor neighborhood. She was due to return to France soon. The National Liberation Army (ELN) denied involvement. Police said the bomb might have contained ammonium nitrate. Police arrested eight suspects—four men and four women—in Bogota and El Espinal on June 24. They were suspected of membership in the previously-unknown Popular Revolutionary Movement. 17061701

**June 19:** National Liberation Army (ELN) rebels kidnapped two Dutch journalists in el Tarra in the

Catatumbo region. The hostages were reporter Derk Bolt and cameraman Eugenio Follender, who work for the Spoorloos (Without a Trace) TV program aired by the Dutch *KRO-NCRV* network. The hostages remained in captivity two days later. Spoorloos attempts to help people find missing blood relatives. The ELN tweeted on June 22 that the hostages were in good health and would soon be released. *NPR* reported that Dutch Foreign Affairs Minister Bert Koenders said they were freed unharmed on June 24. 17061901

**August 31:** Some 900 members of the weeklong congress of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels voted overwhelmingly to change the fledgling political movement's name to the Alternative Communal Revolutionary Forces (FARC).

**September 4:** The Colombian government and the ELN signed a ceasefire in Quito, Ecuador. The agreement would go into effect on October 1 and run through January 12, 2018. The rebels agreed to suspend attacks on infrastructure, kidnappings and recruitment of minors. The government said it would increase protection for social leaders who had recently been attacked and develop humanitarian aid to rebels.

**October 30:** The National Liberation Army admitted that during the previous week it had killed indigenous Embera leader Aulio Isarama on the reservation in the western state of Choco, where he was governor, in violation of a month-old cease-fire. Human rights groups reported that he was the eleventh indigenous leader slain in 2017 in Colombia. The ELN's western front said that it had detained Isarama for allegedly being an informant for military intelligence and that he died after he physically assaulted one of the ELN rebels who had been escorting him to where he was to be interrogated.

**November 1:** Leaders of the now-disbanded Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) announced that their former top commander Rodrigo Londono, alias Timochenko, will run for president in the 2018 election.

# Cuba

**January 5:** *Reuters* reported that the U.S. transferred Yemeni detainees Mohammed Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanem, Salem Ahmed Hadi bin Kanad, Abdullah Yehya Yousef al-Shibli and Mohammed Bawazir from Guantanamo Bay to Saudi Arabia.

Bawazir arrived at Guantanamo Bay in 2002. He conducted a lengthy hunger strike. A federal court ruled in 2009 that his forced feeding did not constitute torture. He was cleared for transfer in 2010.

Pakistani forces captured Ghanem on the Afghan-Pakistan border in 2001. He arrived in Guantanamo Bay in 2002. He was classified for continued detention in 2010, but approved for transfer in mid–2016.

Kanad was deemed a continued risk in 2010 but was declared eligible for transfer in 2015.

Shibli, a Saudi-born Yemeni, was approved for transfer in 2010.

**January 16:** The Omani Foreign Ministry announced that ten detainees at Guantanamo Bay were transferred for "humanitarian reason" to Oman, where they will temporarily reside.

**January 19:** *CNN* reported that the Pentagon announced that four more inmates were transferred out of Guantanamo Bay, leaving the facility's population at 41. One detainee went to Saudi Arabia, the other three to the United Arab Emirates.

**June 24:** *UPI* and the *Miami Herald* reported that a U.S. prosecutor filed charges against Indonesian Guantanamo Bay inmate Riduan Isamuddin, alias Hambali, alias Encep Nurjamen, 53, including terrorism, murder in violation of the law of war, attempted murder, intentionally causing serious bodily injury, attacking civilians and civilian objects and destruction of property, in violation of the law of war in connection to nightclub bombings in Bali in 2002 and a 2003 attack on the JW Marriott in Jakarta, which killed a combined total of more than 200 people. The prosecutor alleged that Hambali had deputies pick up $50,000 from al-Qaeda. *AP* and *Military Times* reported on June 28 that prosecutors were not seeking the death penalty.

**September 19:** The *Miami Herald* posted photos of current and released Guantanamo Bay detainees it identified as Abdel Malik Wahab al-Rahabi, Walid Hijazi, Adnan Latif, Umar Abdulayev, Djamel Ameziane, Adel Hakeemy, Shaker Aamer, Abdul Khaled al-Baidani, Oybek Jabbarov, Fayez Kandari, Younis Abdurrahman Chekkouri, Suleiman al-Nahdi, Ayman al-Shurafa, Ghaleb Bihani, Ahmed Darbi, Mohamedou Ould Slahi, Omar Khadr, Saifullah Paracha, Abdulsalam al-Hela, Abdul Rabbani, Ahmed Rabbani, Mustafa al-Hawsawi, Ramzi bin al-Shibh, Walid Bin Attash, Ammar al-Baluchi, Majid Khan, Khalid Sheik Mohammed, Abdul Malik, Muhammad Rahim, Zahir Hamdoun, Mansoor Abdul Rahman al-Dayfi, Ravil Mingazov, Ahmed Abdul Qader, Hassan Guleed, Zayn al-Abdeen al-Hussein, and Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi.

**December 13:** The *Washington Post* reported that as of December 13 Guantanamo Bay detainee Abdellatif Nasser, 53, who was told in the summer of 2016 that the U.S. decided he no longer posed a threat and could go home to Morocco, remained at Guantanamo Bay. Morocco had missed by eight days a deadline for sending the U.S. a diplomatic agreement that would have transferred him. He was represented by attorneys Clive Stafford-Smith and Shelby Sullivan-

Bennis. Nasser was a member of an illegal Sufi group in the 1980s. He was recruited to fight in Chechnya in 1996, but traveled to Afghanistan and trained at an al-Qaeda camp. He was captured and sent to Guantanamo Bay in May 2002. He since studied math, computer science and English at Guantanamo, and wrote a 2,000-word Arabic-English dictionary.

UN special rapporteur on torture Nils Melzer claimed that Guantanamo Bay detainee Ammar al-Baluchi was being ill-treated, observing, "In addition to the long-term effects of past torture, noise and vibrations are reportedly still being used against him, resulting in constant sleep deprivation and related physical and mental disorders, for which he allegedly does not receive adequate medical attention." The Pentagon denied Melzer's claims.

# Dominican Republic

**February 14:** Gunmen killed radio producer/director Leo Martinez and announcer Luis Manuel Medina in San Pedro de Macoris while one of them was reading the news during a live transmission of radio station 103.5 HICC on *Facebook*. A secretary was injured. Three men were detained, but no one was charged. Medina was the official announcer of the Estrellas Orientales baseball team.

# Ecuador

**February 7:** The Colombian government and the National Liberation Army (ELN), Colombia's second-largest guerrilla group, formally began peace talks in Quito. Pablo Beltran represented the ELN.

# Haiti

**March 20:** Gunmen fired on the motorcade in downtown Port-au-Prince of ex–President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, injuring two people, after he appeared as a witness in a court hearing. A security guard was hospitalized with a shoulder injury. The government denied that there was an assassination attempt.

# Honduras

**June 15:** Security Minister Julian Pacheco said that before dawn, a helmeted gunman on a motorcycle intercepted and shot to death Honduran journalist Victor Funez, 36, alias El Masa, who was running for a congressional seat, as Funez was about to enter his home in the neighborhood of La Gloria in the Caribbean coast city of La Ceiba. The attacker shot the victim once in the head and twice in the body, then took his wallet. Police arrested a suspect. Funez directed the local channel 45 nighttime show *Panorama Nocturno*. He won a primary in Atlantida Province and was preparing to run in November elections as a congressional candidate for the governing National Party. He became the 70th journalist slain in Honduras since 2001.

# Mexico

**January 6:** A gunman wounded an official of the U.S. consulate in Guadalajara. Surveillance video showed the gunman following the official in a parking garage, then waiting for him to drive out of the parking garage before firing a round into the car's windshield. The FBI offered $20,000 for information on the attacker. On January 8, *AP* reported that the Attorney General's Office of Jalisco State said they caught the gunman. The Jalisco New Generation cartel was among the suspects. *AP* reported on January 9 that the Mexican federal Attorney General's Office said, "a U.S. citizen was identified and detained for his presumed involvement in the case. This person will be deported to the United States, to determine his legal situation." Local media identified the victim as Christopher Ashcraft, a consular officer in Guadalajara since 2016. *ABC News* reported on January 10 that the federal Attorney General's Office said the arrested U.S. citizen had been sent out of Mexico late on January 9. An official with the Attorney General's Office identified him as U.S. citizen Zia Zafar and a U.S. official said he had mental health issues.

**April 23:** A pickup carrying industrial X-ray equipment that uses iridium-192 was stolen in Tlaquepaque in Jalisco State.

**July 25:** A bomb went off at 2 a.m., damaging a door at the Mexico City headquarters of Mexico's Roman Catholic Council of Bishops, causing no injuries. The office is near the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**August 2:** The civil engineering department of the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon reported that an industrial measuring device containing radioactive cesium-137 and americium-beryllium was stolen from a van in Nuevo Leon State.

# Peru

**September 12:** *BBC* reported that ballet dancer Maritza Garrido Lecca, 52, who was sentenced in 1992 after Sendero Luminoso (SL, Shining Path) leader Abimael Guzmán and his partner, Elena Iparraguirre, were found in Garrido's apartment, was released from jail. Her story was profiled in John Malkovich's 2002 film *The Dancer Upstairs*, starring Javier Bardem as the policeman who tracks down Guzmán. She was believed to have come into contact with SL through her aunt, Nelly Marión Evans Risco, a former nun and teacher at a school in Lima. Evans was arrested in 1991. Garrido's boyfriend, Carlos Incháustegui, had rented the apartment. Incháustegui and Garrido were arrested and sentenced to 25 years in jail for terrorism.

# Puerto Rico

**May 17:** Puerto Rican nationalist Oscar Lopez Rivera, 74, a member of the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN), was released from house arrest after decades behind bars. The group had claimed credit for more than 100 bombings of government buildings, department stores, banks and restaurants in New York, Chicago, Washington and Puerto Rico during the 1970s and early 1980s. Among them was the unsolved 1975 explosion that killed four people and wounded 60 at Fraunces Tavern restaurant in New York City's financial district. In July 25, 1981, the Vietnam War veteran was convicted in Chicago of seditious conspiracy, armed robbery, a weapons violation and four counts of interstate transportation of stolen vehicles and sentenced to 55 years in prison. He later was convicted of conspiring to escape from prison in Leavenworth, Kansas. He was the last of his group serving time, including twelve years in solitary confinement. In 1999, President Bill Clinton offered him clemency but the inmate rejected the offer because it excluded two associates who have since been released. In 2011, the U.S. Parole Commission denied his request for an early release. President Barack Obama commuted his sentence in late January 2017. Less than a month later, he was released from prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, and arrived in Puerto Rico to complete his sentence under house arrest at his daughter's San Juan home.

# Trinidad and Tobago

**February 17:** *AP* reported that local officials believed that 125 fighters and their relatives had gone to Turkey and on to ISIS-controlled areas during the previous four years.

# Uruguay

**July 22:** Morocco deported back to Uruguay former Guantanamo Bay prisoner Abu Wa'el Dhiab. Uruguayan officials were unaware that he had left the country. Uruguayan police chief Mario Layera said, "Dhiab declared that he wanted to travel to Turkey, but when he made a stop in Morocco and tried to leave the airport, they caught him with a fake Tunisian passport. Dhiab said the passport was given to him by his family, but he declined to say where or how they got it to him." In July 2016, he was found in Venezuela, which sent him back to Uruguay. In December 2016, he boarded a flight for South Africa, which denied him entry. *AP* reported on July 25 that sometime in 2017, he also tried to board a flight to Russia but was turned away because he lacked an entry visa.

# Venezuela

**February 8:** *CNN* reported that Misael Lopez, 41, former legal advisor at the Venezuelan Embassy in Iraq, claimed that embassy staff sold for thousands of dollars passports, some of which were given to people with ties to terrorist groups, including Hizballah.

**May 31:** *UPI* reported on June 2 that gunmen at a barricade killed and robbed Caracas judge Nelson Antonio Moncada Gómez, 37, on the night of May 31 as he was traveling on Avenida Páez de El Paraíso in Caracas.

**June 27:** A stolen German-built Bolkow police helicopter attacked the Supreme Court and the Interior Ministry in Caracas. Investigative police force officer Oscar Perez piloted the craft. Attackers fired 15 times and threw four grenades—some failed to explode. No one was injured. President Nicolas Maduro said it was a failed terrorist attack to oust him from power.

Before the attack, a man claiming to be Perez released an online video saying an operation was underway to seize democracy back from Venezuela's "criminal government." Standing behind him were armed men in military fatigues and balaclavas, Perez claimed to be speaking on behalf of a coalition of military, police officers and civil officials. Perez said he was a pilot in the special response unit of Venezuela's Criminal Investigative Police (CICPC) and demanded that Maduro step down. "On this day, we are carrying out a deployment by air and land with the sole purpose to return the democratic power to the people and to ensure the laws to establish constitutional order."

**July 29:** *CNN* reported that attorney José Félix Pineda, a candidate in the national elections, was shot dead in his home. The attorney general's office reported that "A group of people broke into the home of the victim in the Brisas del Sur sector and shot him multiple times." Pineda was listed as candidate number 3 in Bolivar State.

**August 3:** Two individuals on a motorcycle threw gasoline bombs at the Spanish Embassy in Caracas. 17080302

# Middle East

**March 4:** Senior advisor to President Trump Steve Bannon was featured on the front page of the al-Qaeda-linked *al-Masra* newspaper, saying that he viewed the current struggle as one against Islam as a whole.

**April 23:** The *Long War Journal* reported that *as-Sahab* released a six-minute audio from al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in which he warned that the Syrian war is not an exclusively "nationalist" effort but the "cause of the entire Ummah." He argued that the Syrian insurgency was a "guerrilla" war that should not entail holding territory. "To begin with, I would like to tell our beloved people in Sham [the Levant] that your wounds are the wounds of the entire Ummah, and your pain is the pain of the entire Ummah. You are in our prayers at every moment, and we wish to sacrifice our souls for you.... If anything stands in our way, it is the fact that we are engaged in fighting the same Crusader enemy which you are up against, though on a different front." He said that the "only reason" Sunni Muslims in Syria "are being targeted" is that they "want Islam to rule over the land of Sham.... The International Satanic Alliance will never accept this, and it will spare no effort to stop this Islamic tide." He said Syrians should "prepare" themselves "for a protracted war against the Crusaders and their Rafidhi [derogatory term for Shi'ites and Iran] and Nusayri [the Assad regime] allies." He lauded those who have "taken up the path of jihad in the way of Allah to raise the flag of Islam and jihad on the land of Sham, and to liberate it from oppression, tyranny and corruption.... So do not backtrack.... Know no wavering or compromise. Die honorably, but never accept a life of humiliation.... Unite and close your ranks with your Muslim brothers and mujahideen not just in Sham, but the entire world, for it is a single Crusader campaign being waged against Muslims the world over." Addressing Syrian jihadis, he observed that some "wish to deceive you into buying the myth that only if you were to change your jihad to an exclusively nationalist Syrian struggle, [then] the leading international criminals would be pleased with you.... My people and my brothers in Sham, I would like to offer here a few words of advice as a reminder to you and myself.... We must constantly review our actions, and retract ourselves from everything which is capable of hindering victory. For we can never be better than the Companions of the Prophet (peace be upon him), who were denied victory when they disobeyed. Critical reassessment and correction of mistakes is the first step in the patch to victory.... In my humble opinion, the strategy for jihad in Sham must focus on a guerrilla war aimed at wearing down the enemy and bleeding it to death." This "has been the weapon of choice of the oppressed against arrogant transgressors in every age.... Do not occupy yourselves with holding on to territory, instead focus on destroying the morale of your enemy. Take the enemy to the point of abysmal despair by inflicting unrelenting blows and unbearable losses on its forces." The "cause of Sham is the cause of the entire Ummah. We must not present it as merely a cause of the people of Sham, and then further narrow it down to a cause of Syrians alone, for this is precisely the enemy's plan and his much sought-after objective.... The enemy seeks to transform the jihad in Sham from a cause of the Muslim Ummah to an exclusively nationalist Syrian cause, then turn the nationalist cause to an issue of specific regions and localities, and finally reduce this to an issue of a few cities, villages and neighborhoods.... [It] is incumbent upon us to confront this evil strategy by declaring that the jihad in Sham is the jihad of the Muslim Ummah aimed at establishing the rule of Allah in the land of Allah. This must coincide with encouraging the entire Ummah to participate in the jihad of Sham with its sons, wealth, efforts, and energies." He noted that Salahuddin and the Ottoman Turks "defended Sham earlier in history," lamenting that "none" of the people on his list "were Syrians, but were Muslims and mujahids before anything else." Finally, "We must not submit therefore to the dictations of the leading criminals, who seek to intimidate us with accusations

of 'terrorism' and 'extremism.' These are the same forces that did not even spare Mohamed Morsi, in spite of the fact that he had given them all they had asked for…. I ask Allah to give our people in Sham steadfastness. May Allah bless them with His victory and support, and guide them to take a common stance alongside their Mujahideen brethren the world over against a common united enemy."

**May 13:** The *Long War Journal* reported that al-Qaeda's *as-Sahab* propaganda arm released a message from Hamza bin Laden, the son of al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden, offering "advice" for "martyrdom seekers in the West." His audio was embedded in a ten-minute video. Hamza called on followers to attack on their own, but only after carefully preparing so they "may inflict damage far beyond anything the enemy has ever imagined." A week earlier, AQAP leader Qasim al-Raymi issued a similar message.

Hamza said jihadis should "avenge" the "children of Syria," the "widows of Palestine," the "free honorable women of Iraq," and "the orphans of Afghanistan." "Exercise patience and deliberation, for it is among the qualities loved by Allah and His Messenger, peace be upon him…. Accomplish your goals with secrecy. Attain the highest level of perfection in your actions, exercise utmost care and caution, and prepare diligently to inflict crippling losses on those who have disbelieved." He suggested that followers could "benefit" from AQAP's *Inspire* Magazine, a view Osama did not share. "Be perfect in your choice of targets, so that you may damage your enemies more…. Be professional in your choice of weapons. It is not necessary that it should be a military tool. If you are able to pick a firearm, well and good; if not, the options are many … follow in the footsteps of martyrdom-seekers before … professionally executed individual operations in the West … outweighed numerous operations in the East…. Know that inflicting punishment on Jews and Crusaders where you are present is more vexing and severe for the enemy…. It is sharper than a hundred warheads directed against their agents … prioritize … targets…. Everyone who transgresses against our pure Religion, or against our beloved Prophet (peace be upon him)" should be struck. "Next, look out for Jewish interests everywhere … target American Crusaders…. If you are unable to go for American Crusaders, target the interests of the Crusader member states of NATO…. And since Russia has forgotten what it tasted in Chechnya and Afghanistan, and has returned once again to interfere in matters concerning Islam, do not exclude it from your targets of priority. Give Russia a pertinent reminder of the days of your predecessors…. I strongly advise that the message you intend to convey through your blessed operation must be explained unequivocally in the media…. It is absolutely imperative that people should know the objective of your operation…. We in al Qaeda emphasize the importance of conveying the following messages to Western states, and we advise you to do the same." Priorities include:

"1. Our Religion and our Prophet (peace be upon him) are RED LINES. Let those who cross these lines take heed from *Charlie Hebdo*.

"2. Palestine is a cause of our Islamic Ummah [worldwide community of Muslims]. And anyone who supports Jewish occupiers shall never dream of peace, with the permission of Allah.

"3. Sham is a cause of our Islamic Ummah. Our people in Sham are faced with genocide. And everyone who participates in tormenting them with bombings or by aiding Bashar [al-Assad] and his allies shall not escape punishment.

"4. Our lands are occupied. The Land of the Two Sanctuaries [Saudi Arabia] is occupied. We shall continue to target you until you withdraw your forces from the Arabian Peninsula and from every single land of Islam.

"5. Our airspace is violated by your aircrafts which unleash their deadly payload on our children. Our wealth and resources are expropriated every single day."

**June 5:** Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain broke diplomatic, air, sea and land links with Qatar. Four Arab nations led a diplomatic break with Qatar, accusing its rulers of supporting terrorist factions and stoking regional conflicts. The Maldives and Yemen later broke ties with Qatar.

**June 10:** The *Long War Journal* reported that *as-Sahab* released "One Ummah, One War on Multiple Fronts," the seventh installment of al-Qaeda emir Ayman al-Zawahiri's "Brief Messages to a Victorious Nation" series. The message began with photos of:

- Hassan al-Banna, the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood
- Izz Ad-Deen al-Qassam, a Syrian Islamic thinker who preached jihad
- Abdullah Azzam, co-founder of the predecessor to al-Qaeda
- Osama Bin Laden
- Abu Musab al-Suri, an ideologue whose teachings are influential
- Abu Muhammad al-Turkistani, co-founder of the al-Qaeda-affiliated Turkistan Islamic party
- Mullah Mohammed Omar, founder of the Taliban

Zawahiri observed, "Our Ummah today is up against a global war in which Western and Eastern (Orthodox) Crusaders, Chinese, Hindus, Safavi Rawafidh [meaning the Iranians and allied Shi'ites] and secular nationalists are partners in crime…. From the coasts of al-Maghreb (Western North Africa) to Eastern Turkistan, you will find a Muslim

world confronted by aggression, occupation, repression, bombardment, and international alliances working hand[s] in gloves with client regimes, which are outside the pale of Islam and work for the interests of the leading international criminals."

"In terms of peculiarities, one region may differ slightly from another, but there are obvious common denominators, namely fighting Islam in the name of the 'Fight against Terrorism' and subservience to an 'International System,' cleverly crafted by the victors of World War II for the mutual division and theft of the natural resources of the world—specifically the Muslim world."

"You will find that the major role in this criminal alliance belongs to the Americans, and then the roles gradually differ as per the power wielded by each partner and its stakes in the system."

He quotes an Islamic verse: "And hold on strongly to the rope of Allah and be not divided amongst yourselves," arguing that "jurists" long ago "ruled that the lands of the Muslims have the status of a single domain."

"There is a consensus amongst the jurists that if the disbelieving enemy occupies a Muslim land, it becomes obligatory on its residents to defend that land, and if they find themselves unable to do so, this obligation expands in a circular fashion to those nearest to them, and so on until it encompasses Muslims all over the globe." Muslims "have always risen up to defend their lands regardless of nationality or race … prevailing norm until the demise of the Ottoman state, which had defended the lands of Islam for five centuries. After the fall of the Ottomans, the concept of nation-states with boundaries demarcated by the infidel occupiers started holding sway, and among Muslims arose some proponents of this notion. This is why the callers of the Islamic revival actively fought against this concept."

He cited the actions of several jihadis, including

- Hassan al-Banna, an Egyptian, who organized "battalions for the liberation of Palestine."
- Izz ad-Deen al-Qassam, a Syrian, who waged "jihad in Palestine."
- Abdullah Azzam, the Palestinian, who awakened "the ummah to defend Afghanistan" and declared "most unequivocally that jihad has been a Fardh Ayn (a compulsory individual obligation) since the fall of al-Andalus (Muslim Spain)."

"Then emerged the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan [the Taliban's state], and we saw Afghans and emigrants alike pledging allegiance to it. Osama bin Laden and Abu Musab al-Suri—both Arabs—and Abu Muhammad al-Turkistani … pledged "allegiance to Mullah Muhammad Omar, the Afghani (may Allah have mercy on each one of them). So may Allah reward these pioneers, who revived the spirit of one united ummah confronting a disbelieving enemy."

"But today, there are some who want to push us back behind the lines of division drawn by disbelieving occupiers…. Pakistan for Pakistanis, Syria for Syrians, Palestine for Palestinians … in the interest of whom, may we ask? … May Allah help us gather our strength, bring our hearts closer, unite our ranks, and not deprive us of victory because of our sins."

**June 12:** ISIS released an audiotape in which spokesman Abu al-Hassan al-Muhajer praised the previous week's attacks in Tehran and called on supporters to conduct attacks in the U.S., which is "weaker than a spider's web," Europe, Russia, and Australia during Ramadan, observing that "heaven is reached under the shadow of swords."

**June 15:** The U.S. Departments of State and Treasury added three senior ISIS members to its Specially Designated Global Terrorists list. Listing freezes assets they may have in U.S. jurisdictions and bars Americans from any transactions with them. The listees were

- Mohammad Armar, a leader and head recruiter for the Islamic State in India who recruited dozens of IS sympathizers throughout India who are plotting attacks, acquiring weapons and scouting locations for training camps.
- Oussama Atar, a Belgian-Moroccan organizer of the November 2015 attack in Paris and the March 2016 attack in Brussels.
- Mohammed al-Binali from Bahrain, who appeared in several propaganda videos encouraging Bahrain's police and soldiers to join ISIS.

**September 19:** *Military Times* reported that al-Qaeda propaganda outlet *al-Hijrah* issued a "Wanted Dead or Alive for Crimes Against Islam" poster of U.S. President Donald Trump. The group said, "Recently Trump decided to continue the war against the Muslims in Afghanistan after 16 years of severe losses. America is weaker today than ever. The U.S. was unable to defeat the Mujahideen when it had more than 100,000 troops in Afghanistan…. Also, most Americans have become afraid of this war. The war in Afghanistan has cost American tax pays 841 billion dollars. Thousands of U.S. soldiers was injured and killed by the Mujahideen. Even, Obama had admitted before his retirement that America was unable to defeat the Mujahideen in Afghanistan." The group cited his "hatred against Muslims…. Afghanistan will become the graveyard for American troops."

**September 21:** *Defense News* and www.c4isrnet.com reported that ISIS used the $1,500 Chinese-made DJI Phantom commercial drone in its mini–air force for intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and close-air support. Al-Qaeda's Syrian affiliate and Hizballah have also used drones.

**September 28:** *AP, CNN,* and *Military Times* reported that ISIS's *al-Furqan* media propaganda outlet

released a 46-minute audio titled "Your Lord Suffices as Guide and Helper" attributed to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The speaker noted North Korea's nuclear threats against the U.S. and Japan, as well as Iran's conflict in Yemen and Syria. He added that he was "certain that bloodshed in Mosul, Raqqa, Sirte, Ramadi and Hama will eventually lead to the downfall of tyrants." "You soldiers of the caliphate, heroes of Islam and carriers of banners: light a fire against your enemies…. You soldiers of Islam, supporters of the caliphate everywhere, step up your attacks and include the media centers of the infidels and the headquarters of their ideological war among your targets…. Don't you dare allow the Crusaders and the apostates to enjoy a good and comfortable life at home while your brothers are enduring killings, shelling and destruction." "In Mosul, they defiantly stood firm on a land ruled by God's laws against the infidels and nations of the cross … only leaving it over their skulls and dead bodies after nearly a year of fighting…. The sons of Islam will willingly continue to sacrifice their blood and bodies for the sake of their creator." "You Sunnis of Iraq, Syria, Yemen and everywhere … get out of your beds and shake off oppression … return to your faith and restore your glory and eminence." In Syria, "What have you gained from the conferences of humiliation and the crumbs of supporters except appeasing the Alawites and surrendering your homes?" He claimed Syrian forces would "not last an hour" without the air cover provided by the Russia or the U.S.-led coalition. A Muslim's top priority is to "satisfy God…. Victory against the enemies and the enemy of God comes next." He lauded "the mujahideen" for "clashing the shining swords and shedding filthy blood." "America, Europe and Russia are living in a state of terror." He noted that Muhammad had not told his followers when or how Islam would be victorious, "so that they don't make victory or defeat dependent upon losing territory or some of the believers being killed."

**October 4:** The *Long War Journal* reported that al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri issued a video entitled "We Shall Fight You Until There is No More Persecution (Allah-Willing)." He noted that Osama bin Laden was responsible for "[u]niting the jihadi organizations on a common goal on which the Ummah can be united … [m]aking the Ummah recognize its real enemy, which must be made a target of priority in its Jihad," and "[b]ringing jihadi organizations under the banner of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan," i.e., the Taliban. He said his predecessor "set in motion … a widespread awakening in different parts of the Muslim world" and was "an Imam among the Imams and revivers of Muslims." "This then is the way of Osama bin Laden (may Allah have mercy on him), and this is the way of al-Qaeda after him: confronting the head of global disbelief first, while working at the same time on Jihad against the local client regimes, because the war is eventually a single war, and it is not detached except in the imagination of someone who does not have a correct perception of the situation." Zawahiri cited the Taliban-al-Qaeda relationship in complaining about jihadists in Syria, saying that the jihadists in Syria cannot hide from the Americans. "Today we once again come across those who want to escape from facing the reality and seek to repeat the same failed experiment, believing that they will reach the seat of power—whether in Cairo or Damascus—by deceiving America, which cannot be deceived as they wish to deceive it." "The employees of the American State Department visit those who have agreed to come to terms with them, promising carrots while wielding the stick." "The financiers too mobilize with their deception and traps, saying, 'We want to help you, so do not give us any trouble.'" He complains about a former ISIS leader's going back on his statement of fealty, observing, "Thus Adnani exclaims, 'The oath of allegiance was an oath of respect and appreciation; we obeyed them in external affairs and disobeyed them in our internal affairs!'" Zawahiri argued that "violation" of the oath of allegiance is "forbidden." "As for us, we shall fulfill our oath; we shall neither wear down nor give in." "Those who wish to absolve themselves say, 'We want to avoid bombings … we want to flee from being designated as terrorists … the financiers have made it conditional upon us to wash our hands of those disliked by America, lest we too are designated as terrorists … we do want the aid being extended to the refugees to be cut off … we will not be able to unite if we retreat into our shells….'" "And so regionalism gradually becomes a slogan which people do not hesitate to raise, as if the West and the East, the Crusaders, Rawafidh, secularists, Russian atheists and Chinese haven't already united against us!" He notes that "some" are "grumbling": "Do not give the Americans any anxiety regarding us, as if they are not aware that America has been anxious about us and enraged at us for five decades!" "Is it al-Qaeda which has provoked America (in Syria)? Al-Qaeda, with the blessing and favor of Allah, fully supported the Jihad of our people in al-Sham right from day one, extending a helping hand and opening its heart for all Mujahideen in al-Sham, the land of Ribaat and Jihad." "It was al-Qaeda which selected the honorable Sheikh, Abu Khalid al-Suri (may Allah have mercy on him) as its representative to solve the biggest problem that had arisen in al-Sham. Is this what necessitates its expulsion? Or the demands of America and its agents dictate so?" "So let us all be a fortified wall, from East Turkistan to the Islamic Maghreb, and from the Caucasus to Central Africa … "May Allah bless the lions of Islam in Mali, who have raised the morale of the Mujahideen and sincere Muslims…. They have solidified their ranks, like a

fortified wall, and increased the robustness and cohesion of the front of the Islamic Maghreb…. We ask Allah to make them steadfast, fill their hearts with patience, help them in every possible way, and open the doors of fortune for them until they are able to repeat the feat of the battle of Zalaqah for the third time in history, with the permission of Allah…. Since unity is the way to victory, therefore dismantling the Jihadi assembly has been among the principal goals of America and its client regimes in the Islamic and Arab world." America and its allies "seek to unravel its bonds, break its mutual links and turn the Jihad of the Ummah into a regional jihad and then sow discord among the Mujahideen in each region, so that they splinter into different groups, fail to achieve their shared goals and their strength eventually dissipates."

**November 7:** The *Long War Journal* reported that al-Qaeda released an audio message from Hamza bin Laden entitled, "Osama…. The Fighter Against Invaders And the Inciter of Rebellion Against Tyrants." He called his father a hero of the worldwide Muslim community. Hamza claimed that Osama "was able to revive the spirit of Jihad in the way of Allah" decades after the fall of the Islamic caliphate in the early 20th Century. "Thus, he [Osama] was able to bring about the shift from the Jihad of the elite to the Jihad of the Ummah … sweet springs of Jihad gush forth from beneath the surface, one after another, in different parts of the Islamic World, and the good work continues."

"A large portion of the Ummah" had "succumbed to foreign occupation" and resigned itself to being "governed by man-made laws" until "the best of its sons rose up in rebellion against the status quo." The "general political objective" of the Ummah today is focused on "liberating the Muslim lands, freedom from Crusader hegemony, establishing the Islamic Shariah, living freely under its merciful shade, and inviting people to it."

"Among the eminent personalities who possessed exceptional vision and foresight, and who were able to hold the hand of their Ummah and lift it from the base of the mountain to a high ground and yet still to higher hills, so that it might once again see the light of its illuminating torch on the horizon and set its eyes on its clear goal, was Sheikh Osama bin Laden (may Allah have mercy on him).

"After the fall of the Soviet Union, it was America's turn to cross the limits in its arrogance…. It was deceived by its power, the masses spellbound by its apparent prowess. Yet America was oblivious to the fact that Allah had made it succeed Russia (a fallen superpower).

"The Imam, Sheikh Osama … returned to the fortress of Islam, Afghanistan, for the second time with just six of the best of his brothers…. Allah guided the loyal Emir, the Emir of the Believers, Mullah Muhammad Omar Mujahid (may Allah have mercy on him) to safeguard and help this young fledgling call."

Omar "set an example of generosity and loyalty which cannot be penned in words…. And thus the numbers started to increase gradually, and preparations began to confront the second Pharaoh."

Re 9/11, he observed, "Once again, with limited means—this time civilian aircrafts—the Imam, Osama, was able to rub America's nose in dust and strike at its very heart, dragging it into a confrontation with the Ummah instead of a confrontation with just a few individuals…. And so America's armies were forcefully dragged into the swamps of Iraq and Afghanistan…. America was forced to flee Iraq defeated and humiliated, while it is still stuck in the quagmire that is Afghanistan, in spite of the admission of its former President, Obama, of the defeat of his country at the hands of the forces of the Islamic Emirate [the Taliban]."

Talking about Osama, he recalls, "I remember seeing him at times with his lunch or dinner being mere oil, salt, and a piece of bread." He "sacrificed his soul" and spent "his life and his wealth … helping the Muslim Ummah" to liberate itself and "sparking a revival in its ranks."

He warns, "The Arab Spring revolutions bore the message of freedom and honor, but they did not possess a protective force or a sharp sword for their defense, and thus the enemies assailed it and derailed it from its path…. The Imam, Osama … departed this world encouraging and inciting you to continue the journey of the revolutions, warning you against pre-mature termination or diversion of these revolutions; and that no matter how logically convincing and eloquently presented a call may be, it shall never attain complete success unless it has a force to protect it, and the force that can protect the journey of our Ummah towards its destined lofty goal is none other than Jihad in the Way of Allah."

"Truthful scholars" should spark youths' jihad and "oppressed Muslims masses" should "[r]ise in rebellion against oppression and tyranny" and "revolt against the agents of the Americans."

"To conclude, I invite Muslims generally to take revenge from the Americans, the murderers of the Sheikh (may Allah have mercy on him), specifically from those who participated in this heinous crime."

**November 28:** The *Long War Journal* reported on December 2 that on November 28, al-Qaeda's *as-Sahab* released a message from AQ leader Ayman al-Zawahiri. Regarding the al-Nusrah Front's *bay'at* (oath of allegiance), he announced, "I want to definitively confirm that we did not release anyone from our pledge," a "binding agreement" which it "is forbidden to break." "We did not accept the pledge of

al-Nusrah Front to be a secret. We consider this to be among the deadly mistakes." He cited Abu Khalid al-Suri, a senior member of Ahrar al-Sham and an al-Qaeda veteran, who upheld his *bay'at*. Al-Suri died in February 2014, apparently by an ISIS suicide bomber. Al-Zawahiri told his adherents, "I request from my brothers, the soldiers of al-Qaeda in the Levant, to cooperate with all the honest mujahideen and to strive to reunite and mend the rift." The video included footage of Egyptian al-Qaeda veterans Saif al-Adel, Abu Muhammad al-Masri and Abu al-Khayr al-Masri, who, along with Khalid al-Aruri, alias Abu al-Qassam, were reportedly released from Iranian custody in 2015 in exchange for an Iranian diplomat who had been taken hostage in Yemen.

**December 8:** *Fox News* reported that al-Qaeda's *as-Sahab* released a call for a global jihad against the United States and its allies in response to President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. "The surest and quickest way to confront the aggression of the pharaoh of our age—America—is jihad in Allah's name by targeting the vital interests of the United States and its Zionist and Crusader (Christian) allies everywhere." AQIM and AQAP issued similar statements.

**December 27:** The *Washington Post* reported that ISIS's *al-Hayat Media Center* posted a video by Abu Salih al-Amriki, a one-legged American fighter, who called on U.S.-based Muslims to "take advantage" of the country's gun laws to obtain weapons and conduct attacks. Al-Amriki wore khaki fatigues with a holstered pistol and spoke English with a New York City–area accent. He said, "Take advantage of the fact that you can easily obtain a rifle or a pistol in America. Spray the kuffar [infidels] with bullets so that their fear of the Muslims rises and they continue to reveal their hatred towards Islam … get a knife and slice the throat of the [infidels] so that they know that the blood of the Muslims is not cheap." He called President Trump a "dog of Rome," observing, "You entered into the White House on the back of your crusader rhetoric, which the fake media has pressured you to tone down." The video was part of the ISIS series "Inside the Caliphate," featuring mainly foreigners threatening attacks.

# Afghanistan

**January 2017:** On May 30 Polish and Afghan special forces and U.S. helicopter sorties freed eleven Afghan hostages, including two soldiers, four police officers, and five civilians, held by the Taliban in Helmand Province for four months. A Polish official said the hostages were "beaten, tortured, treated terribly for four months."

**January 1:** An evening explosion in Herat injured six people.

**January 2:** A roadside bomb in Logar Province killed a police officer and injured a district police commander and three road construction engineers.

Deputy Badakhshan Provincial Police Chief Mohammed Nabi Bayhan said a Taliban ambush killed four police; provincial council member Ahmad Bashir Musamum put the police death toll at seven. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

Sanatullah Timor, spokesman for the governor of Takhar Province, said a Taliban fighter was killed while planting a mine.

**January 6:** A gunman killed a dozen coal miners and wounded five others in Tala Wa Barfak District in Baghlan Province as the miners were returning to their villages after work. Provincial Governor Faiz Mohammad Amiri blamed the Taliban. He said all the miners were from the minority Shi'ite Hazara group. No one claimed credit.

**January 9:** On February 21 the *Long War Journal* reported that the National Directorate of Security confirmed the death of Qari Saifullah Akhtar, a senior Pakistani al-Qaeda leader, and a comrade during a January raid in Ghazni Province's Nawa district. *LWJ* said he developed links to Osama bin Laden and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence Directorate during a career that began in the 1980s when he fought the Soviets. NDS said he ran a terrorist hub in Kabul Province's Bagram and Reshkhor regions, under the direction of Ayman al-Zawahiri. The Pakistani press had earlier said that Akhtar was killed in Paktika Province's Bermal district. He commanded the Harakat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (HUJI, the Movement of Islamic Holy War) Pakistani jihadist group since 1985.

**January 10:** *NPR* reported that a suicide bomber and a parked car bomb killed 38 people, including civilians and members of the armed forces, and wounded 72 in a highly guarded district in Kabul in an area housing important government and security agencies. Four police officers and at least four women were killed. A suicide attacker approached an intelligence agency building, then set off his explosives. A car bomb then exploded to hit first responders. The Taliban said the attackers had targeted a minibus carrying employees of the National Security Directorate. Police said most of those killed had been traveling in minibuses during late afternoon rush hour on a major road near the Afghan parliament building and American University of Afghanistan. A security official said that a local intelligence chief was killed and a female lawmaker and two journalists were wounded. Rahima Jami, a member of Parliament from Herat Province, was wounded in the 4 p.m. attack.

The UAE Foreign Ministry said an attack at a guesthouse belonging to the governor of Kandahar Province injured UAE Ambassador Juma Mohammed

Abdullah al-Kaabi, and "a number of Emirati diplomats." He had presented his credentials to Afghan authorities in June 2016. General Abdul Razeq, Kandahar's police chief, said they were part of a humanitarian mission. Al-Kaabi had presented his credentials in June 2016. Three explosions inside the governor's compound killed eleven people and wounded 18. The UAE later said that five of its diplomats were killed. Afghan authorities said the dead included two lawmakers, a deputy governor from Kandahar and an Afghan diplomat stationed at its embassy in Washington. Among the wounded was Governor Homayun Azizi and his spokesman, Samim Khpolwak. The Taliban denied responsibility. Razeq said investigators believed the three bombs were hidden inside sofas and that an ongoing construction project at the guesthouse may have given the terrorist access. Several suspects were arrested. On February 15 the United Arab Emirates *WAM* news agency announced that Ambassador Juma Mohammed Abdullah al-Kaabi died of his wounds from the bombing that killed five other Emiratis and wounded others, including Kandahar Governor Homayun Azizia. The Taliban said the blast stemmed from an "internal local rivalry." 17011001

Hours earlier, a pedestrian suicide attack targeting a guesthouse used by an intelligence official in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province killed seven people, including civilians and military personnel, and wounding six people. Police found a nearby car full of explosives. The Taliban claimed credit.

**January 14–15:** During the weekend, three gunmen attacked a religious school in Nangarhar Province, kidnapping 14 clerics who were teaching at the school and two administrators. The Islamic State was suspected.

**January 15:** A roadside bomb exploded when a vehicle ran over it in Pachir-wa Gam district in Nangarhar Province, killing six Afghan civilians, including a woman and child, and wounding two civilians. An Afghan official says that at least six Afghan civilians were killed when their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb in eastern Afghanistan.

**January 16:** Two gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death senior government official Mustafa Safayee in Baghlan Province.

**January 19–20:** In an overnight raid in Sar-i-Pul Province, Afghan authorities killed four Taliban gunmen and arrested two individuals with suspected ties to the jihadist Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.

**January 20:** A sticky bomb attached to a police commander's car exploded, killing him and another person and wounding two others as the car entered a Buzkashi stadium in Balkh Province.

Gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in Kapisa Province in the afternoon for two hours, killing three policemen. The Taliban was suspected.

**January 24:** Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said the Taliban launched nearly 19,000 attacks throughout the country, 2,021 Taliban militants were arrested, and 365 Taliban commanders were killed in the last ten months.

**January 26:** A suicide bomber's explosives concealed in a motorized rickshaw went off prematurely in Ghazni, injuring four people. Deputy police chief Asadullah Shujaye said he was en route to a crowded market nearby. Shujaye said the bomber was likely from the Taliban, which did not take credit.

**January 31:** During the night, the Taliban shot and killed Amir Begum, a woman accused of adultery in Yumgan district in Badakhshan Province, in front of her family.

**February:** An Afghan policeman fired his rifle on his colleagues in Almar district in Faryab Province, killing eight policemen as they were sleeping in an outpost. He fled with their firearms.

**February 1:** The Taliban fired rockets at Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing a civilian and injuring three people, including a small child. The attack took place as Afghanistan's Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah was about to leave the area with other officials after a visit to assess security in the province. None of them were harmed.

A police vehicle hit a remotely-detonated roadside bomb in Khost Province, injuring five policemen and three small children.

A sticky bomb attached to a police vehicle exploded in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province, injuring six civilians and a border police officer, who was the target of the attack.

No group immediately claimed responsibility.

**February 7:** *CNN* and *AP* reported that a suicide bomber walked to a side door of the Supreme Court in Kabul, killing 20 and injuring 41, ten critically. The Taliban was suspected.

A Taliban roadside bomb in Farah Province killed a top district official as he returned home from a mosque.

**February 8:** Gunmen killed six employees of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Qoshtapa district of Jowzjan Province, 22 miles west of Shibirghan, the provincial capital. IS was suspected; the Taliban denied responsibility. *CNN* reported that two employees were missing. The three drivers and five ICRC field officers were delivering livestock materials to an area south of Shiberghan. On September 5, two ICRC staff members were released after being detained for seven months in Jawzjan Province. No group claimed credit. 17020801

A suicide bomber was stopped outside a district headquarters in Paktia Province and set off his explosives, killing two civilians and wounding a policeman. The Taliban was suspected.

Mohammad Hussain Mashraqiwal, spokesman for the Nangarhar Provincial police chief, said NATO drone strikes killed eleven IS terrorists, including two senior commanders, Mohammed Omar Sadiq and Omar Farooq, and wounded six people.

**February 9:** *Military Times* reported that gunmen attacked a U.S. base in Sangin in Helmand Province, severely wounding a U.S. Special Forces soldier. 17020901

**February 11:** A suicide car bomber attacked soldiers outside the New Kabul Bank in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing twelve people, including five soldiers and seven civilians, and wounding 22 people, including seven soldiers. The Taliban was suspected. The soldiers were en route to picking up their salaries.

**February 16:** A vehicle hit a roadside bomb at 11 a.m. in the Urgun district of Paktika Province, killing a dozen civilians, including seven madrassa students, and wounding three others. The Taliban was suspected.

**February 16–17:** The Islamic State attacked security posts from three directions in the Dih Bala district in Nangarhar Province overnight, killing 17 soldiers. Ministry of Defense spokesman General Doulat Qaziri said 21 IS terrorists were killed.

**February 19:** Gunmen armed with guns and hand grenades attacked a family eating dinner at their home in Laghman Province during the night, killing ten civilians and wounding four others.

**February 22:** A remotely-detonated motorcycle bomb exploded a busy market in the Janikhel district of Paktika Province, killing three people, including a woman, and injuring 19 people. The Taliban was suspected.

The Taliban ambushed a military convoy in Alasay district in Kapisa Province. During the clash, a Taliban mortar hit a house, killing four civilians inside it.

The Ministry of Interior announced that security forces killed a dozen IS terrorists, including a key commander, in Nangarhar Province during the previous 24 hours.

**February 24:** In the morning, a suicide car bomb went off at an army post in Girishk district in Helmand Province, killing two soldiers and wounding three. The Taliban was suspected.

IS ambushed police officers coming out of a mosque in Zawzjan Province, killing ten police officers and the wife of a police commander. She had heard about her husband being shot and rushed to the scene, where she was also killed.

The Interior Ministry said security forces in the east and south had killed 38 terrorists, including 23 IS members, over the previous two days. Eight other terrorists were wounded and six arrested in operations in eastern Nangarhar and southern Helmand Provinces.

A mortar hit a classroom in a school in Mihterlam in Laghman Province, killing two students and injuring five others.

The *Times of India* reported on February 26 that Hafeesudheen T. K., 24, a youth from Padne village in Kasargod district of Kerala, India who left the country to join IS, was killed in a February 24 drone attack at an IS stronghold in Afghanistan. His parents were informed of his death via a *Telegram* app message from the account of Ashfaq Majeed, a member of the 21-member group that joined IS. "Hafees was killed by a drone strike yesterday. We consider him to be a Shuhada (martyr) and Allah knows best." He reportedly was radicalized by Abul Rasheed Abdulla, who was then working with the Peace International School in Kozhikode. The group left India in June 2016 and arrived in IS-controlled Nangarhar Province.

**February 26:** In a public letter in four languages, including English, Taliban leader Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada said that, "the Mujahideen and beloved countrymen must join hands in tree planting," although the Taliban will still be "actively engaged in a struggle against foreign invaders and their hirelings." He added, "Tree planting plays an important role in environmental protection, economic development and the beautification of the earth. Allah Almighty has interconnected the lives of human beings with plants. Plants live off soil while humans and animals live off plants. If the plants and trees are eradicated, life itself would be put in peril, Allah Almighty says."

Mullah Abdul Salam, the Taliban's shadow governor for Kunduz Province, and four other terrorists were killed by an American airstrike in the Dashti Archi district of Kunduz Province. No civilians were harmed. He had been arrested in Pakistan in 2010.

**February 27:** During the night, an Afghan policeman fired his rifle at his colleagues at a checkpoint in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing eleven of them before escaping in a vehicle with all the firearms and ammunition in the facility, presumably to join the Taliban. No one claimed credit.

**March 1:** Two Taliban suicide bombers conducted attacks in Kabul.

A suicide car bomber hit the gates of the Sixth Police Station in western Kabul. Gunmen then ran into the compound, firing on police. Twenty-two people died and 120, most of them civilians, were wounded in the hour-long gun battle. The Station is next to Afghanistan's military school. Among the dead was Abdul Qadir, 23, a laborer from a poor neighborhood, who was working part-time as a government vaccinator. He was giving polio drops to a girl outdoors when the suicide bomber hit. His charred body was found in a ditch hours later.

Another suicide bomber walked to an office of the national intelligence service in eastern Kabul, killing one person and wounding another.

**March 5:** Gunmen attacked a checkpoint near Kunduz during the morning, killing five members of the Afghan security forces.

A Taliban sticky bomb exploded under the car of a district police chief in Faryab Province, killing him and wounding another policeman in the afternoon attack.

Gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in Faryab Province, killing a local security forces commander.

**March 8:** At 9 a.m., five gunmen wearing white doctors' uniforms and lab coats attacked the 400-bed Sardar Daud Khan military hospital in Kabul with bombs and gunfire, killing 50 people, including a pharmacist, 37, and wounding 70, mostly civilians, in a six-hour floor-by-floor gun battle. A suicide bomber hit the front gates, then four gunmen drove an ambulance into the compound and fired on guards. Several attackers reached the second floor. The battle ended around 4 p.m. Some 54 wounded victims were taken to the Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital, another twelve injured people were taken to the Emergency Hospital in an adjacent commercial district. The Islamic State claimed credit. The Taliban denied involvement.

The dead included

- Pharmacist Behroz Behnam, who left behind three small children. He was shot to death on the third floor of the hospital. Two terrorists set off their suicide vests.
- Behroz Haidary, a surgeon, army captain, environmental activist, and father of three, according to the *Washington Post*. It was his 37th birthday. He was buried at the hillside Deh Kapaik cemetery.

A *Facebook* posting showed five masked men holding assault rifles in front of a sign in Arabic calling them "our sacrificers" in the "killing and maiming of mercenaries" at the military hospital.

By March 15, authorities had arrested 24 people for involvement in planning the attack or dereliction of duty in failing to prevent it.

**March 10:** Two policemen turned their guns against their colleagues during the night, killing eight members of the security forces in Shinkia district in Zabul Province. The duo stole all the weapons and ammunition from the checkpoint before fleeing.

Authorities in Khost Province shot to death a possible suicide bomber near the entrance to an airport. General Faizullah Ghyrat, provincial police chief in Khost, said, "There were three suspects who wanted to get closer to the eastern gate of the airport, one was killed by the guards and two others disappeared after the first one was killed." No group claimed responsibility.

**March 12:** During the night, security forces freed 32 Afghans, including four members of the Afghan security forces, from a Taliban-run prison in the Nad Ali district of Helmand Province. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi claimed all 32 were drug addicts.

**March 13:** *Reuters* reported that during the evening, a suicide bomber on foot (or a roadside bomb—reports differed) attacked a bus carrying employees of one of the country's biggest telecoms firms, killing one person and wounding eight.

The Taliban, enforcing a sharia decision, cut off a hand and foot of Ghulam Farooq, a suspected thief, in public in Herat Province's Obe district.

**March 17:** A suicide truck bomber hit a military checkpoint in Khost Province in the morning, killing one soldier, wounding ten, and damaging nearby houses and a school. Two Taliban gunmen fired at the troops, who fired back, killing the duo. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

A suicide bomber in Nangarhar Province killed the brother of a local religious affairs director he had targeted for assassination outside a mosque following Friday prayers. The brother tried to stop the attack by wrapping his arms around the bomber before he set off his explosives. The religious affairs official, Zahir Aqhani, was unharmed. No one claimed credit.

**March 19:** An Afghan soldier fired at colleagues inside a base in Helmand Province, wounding three U.S. soldiers before coalition soldiers shot him dead. 17031901

A Taliban suicide car bomber attacked a district headquarters in Kandahar Province, killing six police and wounding five others.

An army operation in Zabul Province killed 13 Taliban and wounded eleven others. Two Afghan soldiers were killed and three others were wounded by a roadside bomb during the operation.

An airstrike killed two Taliban commanders in the Barmal district of Paktika Province.

A drone strike in the Dand-e Patan district of neighboring Paktia Province killed ten gunmen.

**March 20:** The Taliban attacked a military checkpoint on the suburbs of Tirin Kot in Uruzgan Province in the morning, killing three Afghan soldiers and wounding four soldiers. Provincial spokesman Dost Muhammad Nayab said 13 Taliban were killed in the battle. Other reports said ten soldiers died.

During the night, a suicide car bomber hit a government checkpoint in Gareshk in Helmand Province, killing six members of an intelligence service unit and wounding seven service members. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi claimed responsibility.

**March 23:** A police officer fired on his sleeping colleagues, killing nine policemen, at a security post in

Kunduz Province before escaping during the night. The government said that the attacker and the Taliban torched the bodies of the dead policemen. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahed claimed credit, but denied that a policeman had been involved or that the Taliban had burned the bodies of the policemen.

**March 30:** A Taliban mortar attack on a security post in the district of Khwaja Bahuddin in Takhar Province instead hit a nearby home, killing five civilians, including four children, all from the same family.

**March 31:** The Taliban killed a local security policeman and his wife and mother in the district of Khwaja Bahuddin in Takhar Province.

**April 1:** The *Voice of America* reported that a Taliban suicide car bomber killed an Afghan regional base commander and two soldiers in Khost Province's Mando District. The attacker targeted Afghan forces, but also seriously wounded six students from a nearby school.

**April 2:** Taliban gunmen attacked a convoy in Ghazni Province, killing Abdul Wahib Khan, deputy provincial director for Paktika, his driver and two other people and wounding others.

**April 8:** During the night, U.S. Special Forces Army Staff Sergeant Mark R. De Alencar, 37, of Edgewood, Maryland, was killed by small arms fire while fighting the Islamic State offshoot in Nangarhar Province's Achin District. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 7th Special Forces Group based out of Florida. He graduated from the Joppatowne High School in 1998. The *Baltimore Sun* reported that he was survived by a wife and five children. 17040801

Insurgents killed 13 Afghan security forces in separate attacks. A roadside bomb in Balkh Province's Chimtal District went off during the night, killing nine security forces and wounding several others. In ongoing operations, five Taliban were killed and dozens wounded.

IS gunmen attacked the Darzab District headquarters in Jawzjan Province during the night. Four Afghan reinforcements, including a unit commander, were killed in an ambush en route to the gun battle.

**April 10:** Police spokesman Mafuz Akbari said children were playing with an unexploded mortar round when it blew up, killing four and hospitalizing six children in a remote district controlled by the Taliban in Kunduz Province.

**April 12:** A suicide bomber on foot hit government offices near the Defense Ministry compound and a city police station in central Kabul, killing five and wounding three people. IS claimed credit.

**April 13:** A civilian car hit a mine in Paktya Province, killing three members of the same family and wounding a mother and her child. The family was returning from a shopping outing. The Taliban was suspected.

*Air Force Times* reported that at 7:32 p.m., an MC-130 conducted an air strike by on an ISIS-Khorasan Province tunnel complex in the Achin district of Nangarhar Province. The 21,600-pound, 30-foot GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast bomb (also known as MOAB, Mother of All Bombs), the largest non-nuclear bomb in the American arsenal ever used on the battlefield, killed 94 terrorists, including four ISIS-K leaders, and no civilians in the remote area.

**April 14:** Eleven civilians died during the night when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Helmand Province's Nawa district. One person was wounded by a roadside bomb in Lashkar Gah.

**April 15:** A roadside bomb wounded Bati Kot district chief Ghalib Mujahid and three other people in their vehicle. In November 2016, he was attacked by a sticky bomb attached to the vehicle; he was wounded and his driver died.

**April 16:** Salim Sallhe, spokesman for the governor of Logar Province, said the Taliban stoned to death a man and a woman accused of adultery in a remote area of Mohammad Agha district.

In Sari Pul Province, the Taliban militants killed three women and a young boy accused of providing the government with information from inside Taliban-held territory.

**April 18:** In a five-hour gun battle during the night, security forces killed 14 Taliban fighters, including Mawlavi Lal Mohammad, shadow governor of northern Baghlan Province, and several expert bomb makers.

**April 20:** A Taliban roadside bomb killed two soldiers and a civilian in Badakhshan Province in the morning.

**April 21:** Daulat Waziri, spokesman for the Ministry of Defense, said ten Taliban gunmen wearing army uniforms drove their two army Ford Ranger trucks past seven checkpoints with a military convoy, then attacked a military compound in Mazar-e-Sharif in Balkh Province, killing 163 soldiers and wounding 60 others, many critically. Several victims were unarmed members of the 209th Corps of the Afghan National Army who were praying in a mosque or eating in the commissary. Soldiers killed an attacker wearing a suicide vest before he could set off his explosives. The gun battle lasted more than six hours. The Taliban claimed four of the attackers had been soldiers in the Corps but switched allegiances and led the attackers into the facility. The terrorists passed security gates by pretending to be ferrying wounded soldiers for medical treatment. They were challenged at a third gate, but blew up a vehicle, allowing their colleagues to get inside the facility. The *New York Times* reported on April 23 that the dead included Qari Ahmad Khan, 22, who joined the Army after graduating from a madrassa, where he memorized

the Koran; soldier Zabihullah Mohammedi sustained a shrapnel wound in the stomach and a bullet wound in the arm. *Reuters* reported on April 24 that that Defence Minister Abdullah Habibi and Army Chief of Staff Qadam Shah Shahim resigned.

**April 27:** During a nighttime battle in Nangarhar Province, two U.S. Army Rangers were killed and another wounded in a raid against ISIS-K. The *New York Times* later identified them as Sergeant Joshua Rodgers, 22, and Sergeant Cameron Thomas, 23, both deployed from Fort Benning, Georgia. The *Long War Journal* reported that the operation was targeted against Abdul Hasib, emir of ISIS-K in Afghanistan, who might have been killed. Pentagon spokesman Captain Jeff Davis said that 35 Islamic State fighters were killed during the fighting. 17042701

**April 30:** ISIS-K attacked Taliban rebels in Nangarhar Province, killing three people, including a 9-year-old girl, and wounding five civilians. Some 21 Taliban fighters and seven ISIS-K fighters were killed in the gun battle in Chaparhar district.

**May 1:** A suicide car bomber hit a coalition forces convoy in Nangarhar Province, causing no injuries.

A nighttime attack in the district of Ghormach in Faryab Province killed five policemen and wounded four. Javwd Dedar, spokesman for the provincial governor, said eight Taliban gunmen were killed.

**May 3:** An Islamic State suicide minivan bomber crashed into an armored NATO convoy in Kabul on a crowded boulevard a few hundred yards from the U.S. embassy and several Afghan government ministries during the morning rush hour, killing eight Afghan civilians and wounding 28 others, including three U.S. soldiers. 17050301

**May 5:** Gunmen killed four Afghan police officers at a checkpoint in Lashkar Gar in Helmand Province during the night. One government official suggested an insider was involved.

**May 6:** The Taliban overran a district police headquarters in Qala-e Zal in Kunduz Province.

**May 14:** A local official said a mortar attack killed five children in the east.

During the night, a police vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Paktia Province's Zazi Aryb District, killing two border police officers and two civilians.

**May 16:** A nighttime bomb killed two civilians and wounded two others in the Nijrab District of Kapisa Province.

A rocket attack on a market in Asad Abad in Kunar Province killed two civil servants.

A Taliban mortar round struck a house in Laghman Province, killing two women and wounding three children.

Ataullah Khogyani, a spokesman for the Nangarhar provincial governor, said a dozen ISIS-K fighters agreed to hand over their weapons and join a government-backed peace process.

**May 17:** *UPI* reported that three Islamic State gunmen attacked the Nangarhar Province local headquarters of the state-run *Radio Television Afghanistan* service in Jalalabad, starting a clash that killed ten people, including four state television employees, two police officers, and four terrorists, and wounding 18 people. Two suicide bombers on motorbikes blew themselves up outside the compound. ISIS's *Aamaq* news service credited a "commando" raid.

Two bombs exploded in the capital of Kandahar Province, killing a civilian and wounding ten people, including three policemen.

**May 18:** During the night, the Taliban attacked three police checkpoints in Kandahar Province's districts of Khakrezm Arghistan and Nasheen, killing eight police. Police returned fire, killing 22 Taliban terrorists.

A Taliban gunman in Herat Province fired on an army bus, killing an officer and wounding two others.

A policeman, Nasratullah, fired his rifle at his sleeping colleagues at an outpost in Ghanikhil District in Nangarhar Province during the night, killing five before seizing their firearms and fleeing.

**May 19:** A roadside bomb in Logar Province killed eleven people, including five women, five children, and a man, all from the same family, traveling to a wedding. The government blamed the Taliban.

Taliban gunmen killed five policemen in a morning attack on a police checkpoint in Kapisa Province's Tagab District. Ten Taliban died, including two commanders.

A roadside bomb disabled an armored vehicle in a U.S. military convoy in Parwan Province, but caused no injuries.

The Taliban attacked a district headquarters in Ghazni Province. Two police officers and 20 Taliban died in the ensuing battle.

Terrorists set off a suicide car bomb in Waghaz district while gunmen charged from multiple directions.

**May 20:** Five gunmen raided a New Kabul Bank branch in Gardez in Paktia Province, killing three civilians and wounding 30, several critically. A suicide bomber set off explosives, killing two of the bank's security guards. Four gunmen then started shooting before being shot to death by security forces.

At 11:30 p.m., gunmen attacked a Kabul guest house operating by the Swedish aid and development charity Operation Mercy, killing a German woman and beheading an Afghan guard. A Finnish woman was reported missing and possibly kidnapped. ISIS-K was suspected. *AP* reported on September 14 that Finland's Foreign Ministry announced that the Finnish hostage had been released unharmed. 17052001

**May 20–21:** In the evening of May 20 into the next morning, dozens of Taliban gunmen attacked several checkpoints in the Shah Joy district of Sabul Province, killing 20 security forces and injuring ten other security forces, including national and local policemen.

The Taliban fired several mortar rounds on the police chief's office in Qalat in Sabul Province.

**May 21:** Gunmen killed two Afghan employees of the Anti-Corruption Justice Center, which works with the attorney general's office, on their way to work in the morning.

A nighttime airstrike killed Dost Mohammad, Taliban shadow district chief of Qala-e-Zal, and seven other Taliban and wounded four terrorists.

**May 22:** Gunmen ambushed a security convoy, killing five local police, including a group commander—Sadat—and four of his bodyguards who were en route to a funeral in Kohistanat district in Faryab. Several gunmen died.

Gunmen killed Mawlavi Abdul Ghabor, a deputy chief of a provincial clerical council in Logar Province, near Puli Alam, en route to a mosque for morning prayers.

The Taliban attacked a military outpost in Kandahar Province's Shah Wali Kot District, killing eight people and wounding seven troops during the night. Ten Taliban died in a subsequent clash.

During a nighttime gun battle between authorities and insurgents in Nangarhar Province's Bati Kot District, four terrorists and four civilians died and 13 civilians were wounded.

**May 23:** A tractor hit a roadside bomb in Maiwand District in Kandahar Province, killing three civilians and wounding four civilians.

The Taliban attacked the army and police headquarters in Baghdis Province's Muqur District, killing one policeman. Eleven gunmen died in the ensuing clash.

**May 24:** Kamran Afridi, an official in the Pakistani border town of Miran Shah, said a suspected U.S. drone strike targeted a compound in Gurowek in Khost Province, Afghanistan, killing three local Taliban. Taliban commander Abdullah Waziristani confirmed the attack.

**May 24–25:** Daulat Waziri, spokesman for the Afghan Ministry of Defense, said during an overnight gun battle with the Taliban in Kandahar, 13 soldiers were killed and eight others wounded. The Taliban had stormed several security checkpoints. Twenty Taliban died.

**May 26:** In the morning, the Taliban attacked an army camp in Kandahar Province, killing 15 soldiers and wounding five. More than 20 Taliban terrorists were killed in the clash.

Gunmen shot to death two police officers and wounded a third in Kandarhar.

**May 27:** A suicide car bomber attacked a convoy of provincial security forces on a road between Khost Province's main bus station and the provincial football stadium, killing 18 people, mostly civilians, wounding six civilians, including two small children, and damaging or destroying a dozen shops and several vehicles. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility.

Six civilians and 15 fighters from ISIS-K were killed in Nangarhar Province.

**May 28:** Gunmen killed district governor Ajmal Khan and his son in front of their house in the Shakhil Abad District of Paktika Province.

**May 31:** A bomb hidden in a water tanker truck used to clean out septic systems went off at the 8:30 a.m. rush hour near Zanbaq Square on a boulevard in Kabul's Wazir Akbar Khan district, which houses embassies, banks, supermarkets, and government ministries, killing 90, including five women and nine local guards from the U.S. Embassy, and wounding more than 460, including eleven American contractors plus German and Japanese Embassy employees. One Afghan guard was missing, according to *Military Times*. The suicide bomber struck near the Turkish, Iranian, and German Embassies. Victims included mostly Afghan civilians and security forces—policemen, bank clerks, cart pullers, and telephone company workers. The injured included Mohammed Hassan, 21, who was attending a training program at the Azizi Bank, half a block away. Some people several miles away were cut by flying glass from storefronts, offices, and foreign compounds. The German Embassy was heavily damaged. The Taliban denied involvement. A second smaller bomb went off elsewhere in Kabul. On June 6 Afghanistan's president said the death toll had topped 150, with 300 wounded. 17053101

**June 3:** Bombs killed six people attending a funeral in Kabul attended by government officials, including members of parliament. The *New York T*imes reported that another 119 people were wounded. Three bombs went off at the cemetery where deputy speaker for the upper house of Parliament Alam Ezadyar's son, Salem Izidyar, was about to be buried. Salim Ezadyar was killed during a protest the day before that was attended by more than a thousand people in downtown Kabul. The demonstrators were calling for improved security and for the country's leadership to resign after the May 31 bombing that killed 90 people and wounded nearly 500.

**June 4:** Two policemen turned their guns on their colleagues, killing two officers and wounding the Kandahar City district police chief. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi said that both attackers were their men who joined the police to carry out such attacks and both devoted their lives for their aim.

**June 6:** At 3 p.m., a bomb exploded in a rickshaw near the Sunni Great Mosque in Herat city, killing seven and wounding 16.

A rocket hit the Indian diplomatic compound in Kabul, causing no injuries. 17060601

**June 9:** During the night, gunmen attacked worshippers in a mosque in Gardez in Paktia Province, killing three civilians and injuring nine others.

**June 10:** An Afghan soldier fired at U.S. soldiers, killing three and wounding one Nangarhar Province's Achin District. The Afghan soldier was killed. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said that a Taliban loyalist had infiltrated the Afghan army "just to attack foreign forces." 17061001

*CNN* identified the dead soldiers on June 13 as three men who belonged to the 101st Airborne Division and were all in their 20s:

- Sergeant Eric M. Houck, 25, of Baltimore, Maryland, was on his first overseas deployment and was due to come home in July. He enlisted in 2013. He married his high school sweetheart. They had two children, aged 3 and 5. The Army posthumously awarded him the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Action Badge and Army Commendation Medal with a second oak leaf cluster.
- Sergeant William M. Bays, 29, of Barstow, California, joined the Army in 2009 and was an infantryman and squad leader based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. *Stars and Stripes* reported that he was survived by a wife and three children. The Army posthumously awarded him the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge and Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.
- Corporal Dillon C. Baldridge, 22, of Youngsville, North Carolina, was due to return home in August. He went to Afghanistan in October 2016. He graduated from Franklinton High School in 2012. He joined the Army the next year. He turned down an offer to join the Rangers to join his team in its deployment to Afghanistan. The Army posthumously promoted Baldridge to Sergeant and awarded him the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge and the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

**June 11:** A U.S. military convoy transporting U.S. and Afghan soldiers hit a roadside bomb in Nangarhar Province during the night. The soldiers said they were then attacked by small arms fire. They shot back, killing a father and two sons. No U.S. casualties were reported. 17061101

**June 14:** Mohammad Saleem Rohdi, chief of the Gareshk district in Helmand Province, said that a suicide bomber hit a checkpoint run by rival insurgents, killing nine of them and wounding six other members of a breakaway Taliban faction.

A motorbike filled with explosives appeared to have been remotely detonated near a local police commander's house in Paktika Province, killing a woman and four children, and wounding seven people. The police commander was not in the house at the time of the attack.

**June 15:** A suicide bomber set off explosives outside a Shi'ite mosque in Kabul during the night, killing four people, including a leader of the minority Hazaras, Hajji Ramazan Hussainzada, and wounding five people. The suicide bomber tried to force his way inside, but he was stopped by a police officer, who died in the explosion. Another policeman was wounded.

**June 16:** On July 26 the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said that Afghan forces rescued two Pakistani diplomats who were abducted. The two were posted at Pakistan's Consulate in Jalalabad when they went missing while traveling home to Pakistan on June 16, 2017. 17061601

**June 17:** An Afghan Army soldier fired on colleagues at a camp in Mazar-e Sharif, injuring seven U.S. soldiers and an Afghan soldier before he was shot to death. The Taliban praised the attack, but did not claim it. 17061702

**June 18:** The Pakistani Foreign Ministry said two officials driving from its consulate in Jalalabad while returning to Pakistan had disappeared. They were traveling in an area infested with Taliban and ISIS-K. 17061801

General Mohammad Almas, chief of Kabul police's Crime Investigation Department, said a Kenyan working an accountant for the Ministry of Agriculture was kidnapped from Kabul's Kati Char district. 17061802

The Taliban attacked a police base in Gardez, killing five officers. A suicide car bomb exploded outside the base before morning rush hour, wounding civilians and officers. Gunmen in military uniforms then entered the compound and fired at security forces, sparking a six-hour clash.

**June 19:** Two gunmen on a motorbike killed district chief Aqa Mohammad Fazeli as he was on his way to work in the morning in Zaranj, Nimroz Province. Fazeli was the chief in Chakhansor district in Nimroz and a tribal leader in the province.

In a nighttime attack, Taliban gunmen killed eight Afghan security guards and wounded two guards on their way to work at Bagram Airfield in Parwan Province.

**June 20:** A police vehicle hit a roadside bomb at noon along the main Helmand-Kandahar highway, in the Nahr-e Saraj district in Helmand Province, killing four policemen and wounding two.

A sticky bomb attached to a vehicle killed Judge Sher Rahman and wounded three other people, including two of his brothers, in Jalalabad in Nangarhar

Province in the morning. ISIS-K claimed credit. He worked in an anti-corruption court.

**June 21:** Gunmen fired at worshippers at a mosque in the Baraki district of Logar Province, killing two members of the local council and injuring two other local officials in a nighttime attack. The Taliban denied involvement.

**June 22:** A Taliban suicide car bomb exploded at a Kabul Bank branch in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province as Afghan troops and government workers waited to collect their pay, killing 29 people and injuring 60. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmadi e-mailed that the bomb targeted Afghan security personnel collecting their salaries ahead of the Eid-al-Fitr holiday. He said no civilians were killed, a claim disputed by the provincial governor and police chief, who said that most of the dead were civilians. Witnesses said children were wounded.

**June 24:** The Taliban attacked a security post in Herat Province during the night, killing ten police and wounding three. Five gunmen died.

**June 27:** Gunmen killed two police at a checkpoint in Qalat in Zabul Province. Two gunmen died in the nighttime attack.

**June 28:** Gunmen killed two policewomen—sisters returning to their jobs after Eid—in Badakhshan Province.

**June 29:** During the night, the Taliban attacked an Afghan security post in Farah, killing six policemen and wounding three in a three-hour gun battle in which nine Taliban gunmen died. The Taliban stole ammunition and guns before fleeing.

**June 30:** A pickup truck hit a roadside bomb in Nangarhar Province's Achin district, killing seven villagers, among them two children and two women.

**June 30:** During the night, security forces killed Mullah Bashir, the Taliban's shadow governor of Nirkh District, and injured two other Taliban gunmen in Wardak Province.

Afghan airstrikes hit terrorist hideouts in eastern Paktika, northern Sar-e Pul and Jawzjan Provinces, and killed 13 gunmen, including five Islamic State fighters.

**July 2:** Munir Ahmad Farhad, spokesman for the governor of Balkh Province, said the Taliban ambushed local militia members en route to take part in a security operation in Chemtal district, killing 13 pro-government fighters.

**July 5:** A rocket hit a house in Kabul, killing a woman and a small child and injuring a third civilian. A second rocket landed nearby, causing no injuries.

**July 6:** Abdul Karim Yourish, spokesman for the provincial police chief, said that during the night, the Taliban fired a rocket at a civilian vehicle, killing four students and wounding another in Khuwaja Sabz Posh in Faryab Province.

**July 11:** Gunmen pulled seven civilians, including a woman, from a bus in Farah Province's Bala Buluk District, then shot them to death.

The Taliban killed three construction workers in Herat Province's Guzara District.

*NPR* and *CNN* reported on July 14 that the Pentagon announced that three days earlier an airstrike killed ISIS-K leader Abu Sayed and six other ISIS-K members in Konar Province.

**July 18:** During a Taliban assault in Baghlan Province's Jaded District, five policemen were killed and six were wounded.

A roadside bomb killed three children riding on a motorcycle in Herat Province. A second bomb killed two soldiers and wounded a third trying to defuse it.

**July 20:** Police spokesman Zia Durrani said after the Taliban ambushed a police convoy at Shah Wali Kot in Kandahar Province, a nine-hour firefight killed two policemen and wounded three others. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf claimed that 36 policemen were killed.

*Reuters* reported on July 22 that Abdur Rahman, 23, alias Hafiz Khalid, son of Taliban leader Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada, died on June 20 carrying out a suicide car bomb attack on an Afghan military base in Gereshk in Helmand Province.

**July 21:** The Taliban attacked police compounds in the Taywara and Pasaband district of Ghor Province, killing four police officers and wounding seven police. During the four-hour nighttime gunfight, 24 Taliban died.

During a five-hour gun battle after the Taliban attacked a compound of the Afghan National Security Force in Pusht Rod district in Farah Province, six Afghan soldiers and twelve Taliban died. The Taliban said 16 Afghan soldiers died.

Eleven police were killed and six wounded in a gun battle with the Taliban in Badakhshan Province. Another 20 police were missing.

**July 22:** The Taliban kidnapped 60 people and killed seven passengers in several attacks on buses in Kandahar Province during the previous four days. Twenty people escaped. The other 33 were hostages as of July 22. The buses were travelling from Kandahar Province's Shah Wali Kot District to neighboring Uruzgan Province.

The Taliban attacked the Lawlash district police headquarters in Faryah Province, killing two police officers and torching the building.

**July 23:** After capturing Taywara district in Ghor Province, Taliban gunmen walked through the corridors of the local 20-bed hospital, gunning down four or five wounded Afghan National Security military and police personnel.

**July 24:** *ABC News, NPR, AP* and *CNN* reported that a Taliban suicide car bomber crashed his Toyota Corolla into a minibus at 6:40 a.m. near a government facility in the Dehbori neighborhood of southwestern Kabul, killing 29 and injuring 40, including women and children. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed the bomb's target was a bus carrying Afghan intelligence staff, but officials said that all the victims were civilians, including some employees of the Ministry of Mining and Petroleum. The bomb went off not far from the residence of Mohammad Mohaqiq, Afghanistan's most prominent Hazara politician.

**July 25:** The Taliban was suspected when a roadside bomb killed Abdul Rahim Haydari, the governor of Farah Province's Shebako District, along with his son and five bodyguards.

**July 25–26:** *Reuters* and *AP* reported that the Taliban attacked an Afghan National Security base in Kandahar Province's Khakrez district during the night, killing 30 soldiers, wounding 13, capturing the outpost and seizing weapons and vehicles.

**July 26–27:** A joint U.S. and Afghan military operation in Paktika Province's Barmal District killed al-Qaeda-linked Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan leaders Asad Mehsud and Gul Wali Mehsud and led to the capture of Jamal Mehsud.

**July 28–29:** In overnight attacks, the Taliban hit police outposts in Helmand Province's Nawa District, killing a dozen police, several of whom were members of Afghanistan's local police, and wounding twelve.

**July 29:** Two civilians were killed and three injured when their vehicle hit a bomb in Zabul Province's Shahjoy District.

**July 30:** In the early morning, the Taliban attacked a security outpost in Ghazni Province, killing two police and wounding six others. Provincial police chief Mohammad Mustafa Mayar said police repelled the attackers and killed 20 Taliban.

**July 31:** *NPR, UPI*, and *AP* reported that three ISIS-K gunmen attacked the Iraqi Embassy compound in Kabul after a suicide car bomber blasted open the gates. One police officer was wounded. Security forces killed the remaining three attackers after a shoot-out. *Aamaq* claimed seven guards were killed. The compound is near the Afghan Public Protection Force and a government guesthouse. 17073101

**August 1:** During evening prayers, a suicide bomber walked into the largest Shi'ite mosque in Herat Province, shot his rifle at security guards and the 300 worshippers until it jammed, then blew himself up, killing 32, including two children, and wounding 66, ten critically, according to hospital official Dr. Mohammed Rafique Shehrzai. Witnesses heard a second explosion ten minutes after the initial bomber detonated his explosives in the Jawadia Mosque. ISIS-K said that two men, Amir Qassim and Tayeb al-Kharasani, used automatic rifles in the Shi'ite mosque before they detonated themselves. ISIS-K said that the attack killed nearly 50 and wounded more than 80. *NBC N*ews reported on August 3 that Mohammad Asif Qaderyan, the father of Fatemah Qaderyan, captain of a schoolgirl robotics team that flew to Washington, D.C., for International Robot Olympics for High School Students after twice being denied visas, was killed in the bombing. The team won silver at the event.

**August 2:** *Reuters, AP, NPR*, and *CBS News* reported that a suicide vehicle bomber hit a convoy of NATO troops near Kandahar Airport, killing Sergeant Jonathan Michael Hunter, 23, of Columbus, Indiana, and Specialist Christopher Michael Harris, 25, of Jackson Springs, North Carolina, and wounding four American troops. The service members were part of the international Train, Advise and Assist Command south. Taliban spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi said the attacker was Taliban fighter Asadullah Kandahari from southern Kandahar, a "hero" who carried out the attack with a small pick-up truck packed with explosives. The Taliban claimed it killed 15 soldiers and destroyed two armored tanks. 17080201

The Taliban killed Jaghatu District Governor Manzur Hussain and a passenger in his car in Ghazni Province.

**August 3:** *Military Times, al-Jazeera* and *Tolo News* reported that a suicide bomber dressed in a woman's burqa crashed his motorcycle into a convoy of foreign forces in Kabul Province's Qarabagh district, killing a NATO soldier from Georgia and two Afghan civilians and wounding five others, including three Georgian soldiers, two U.S. soldiers, and an Afghan interpreter. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the suicide bomber was from northern Takhar Province and struck at 8 p.m., killing eleven Americans. 17080303

During the evening, a Taliban suicide car bomber crashed into an Afghan National Police outpost in Gareshk District in Helmand Province, killing two police and wounding two. Gunmen fired at a nearby police station.

The Taliban attacked an outpost in Kandahar Province, killing three policemen.

The Taliban attacked a checkpoint outside Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing five policemen.

**August 4:** In the early morning, the Taliban attacked a police outpost in Zabul Province, killing four policemen.

*AP* added on August 9 that the Taliban released 235 villagers held since they seized control of an area in northern Sari Pul Province five days earlier. Local authorities claimed the Taliban and ISIS-K jointly

carried out the attack, which would be the first time the rivals had cooperated in battle.

**August 5:** Romanian NATO advisors killed a member of the Afghan police force in self-defense before he could attack them near Kandahar Airfield after they had completed scheduled law enforcement training. One Romanian soldier and one Afghan policeman were wounded. 17080501

In morning attacks, the Taliban killed 30 people, including women, children, civilians, and local security forces, in the Mirzawalang area in Sayad district in Sari Pul Province. Authorities claimed ten Taliban died. On August 15, ISIS-K claimed credit for killing 54 Shi'ite civilians in the province.

**August 9:** Gunmen fired in the afternoon on four female employees at the Bagram airfield in Parwan Province, killing one and wounding a second woman.

**August 11:** A militiaman loyal to local warlord Bashir Khan fired inside a mosque in Takhar Province, killing four worshippers and wounding 40. Authorities said Khan had a dispute with the mosque's cleric, Maulvi Mafuz, who was the gunman's target. Mafuz was not hurt.

Two mortar rounds hit a house during a nighttime battle in Dawlat Abad district in Faryab Province, killing 13 civilians, including women and children, and wounding three other civilians.

**August 14:** Gunmen killed three local employees of the Catholic Relief Services aid group and wounded a woman in Ghor Province.

**August 15:** The Taliban released a 1,600-word English-language "open letter" to President Donald Trump, calling for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, thereby "truly deliver American troops from harm's way" and bring about "an end to an inherited war." "We have noticed that you have understood the errors of your predecessors and have resolved to thoroughly rethinking your new strategy in Afghanistan…. You must also not hand over the Afghan issue to warmongering generals, but must make a decision where history shall remember you as an advocate of peace."

At noon, a Taliban suicide car bomber detonated his explosives near an Afghan military checkpoint in Chardara district in Kunduz Province, killing one person and wounding two. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

**August 16:** In a gun battle with ISIS-K, a U.S. Staff Sgt. Aaron Butler, 27, was killed and eleven other Utah National Guard soldiers and several Afghan forces were injured in the Achin district of Nangarhar Province. *Military Times* reported that the team was working to clear a booby-trapped building when a bomb exploded. *Army Times* reported that Butler, of Monticello, Utah, was a Special Forces soldier assigned to the Utah National Guard's B Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group. He joined the Utah Guard in 2008, and after training was assigned to C Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion in Blanding, Utah. In June 2015, he transferred to 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group. He arrived at the battalion's B Company in June 2016. He deployed to Afghanistan as a Special Forces engineer noncommissioned officer in April 2017. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. 17081604

A suicide car bomber trying to attack an Afghan army base in Helmand Province during the night instead killed three civilians. The attacker and three other terrorists approached the base before guards shot at them, killing the three who were on foot. Three soldiers were wounded in the blast.

During the night, the Taliban attacked police checkpoints in two districts of Kandahar Province, killing seven police and wounding nine others. Some 19 Taliban were killed in the ensuing gun battles.

**August 17–18:** Four members of the same family died when a mortar shell hit their home during a clash between two Taliban factions in Herat Province.

**August 18:** A roadside bomb killed three civilians driving a car in Herat Province. The Taliban was suspected.

In the evening, the Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Nawa District in Helmand Province, killing five Afghan police and wounding six policemen. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi claimed credit.

The Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Tarin Kot, capital of Uruzgan Province, killing a policeman and starting gun battles that killed 15 Taliban gunmen. Three policemen were wounded.

**August 23:** A Taliban suicide car bomber hit a military convoy near the police chief's headquarters in Lashkar Gar in Helmand Province, killing seven people, among them a small girl, two women and four soldiers, wounding 42, mostly civilians, and destroying several Humvees. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit. *Reuters* said the bomber targeted policemen and soldiers collecting their pay. Local Taliban spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi told *Reuters*, "In the past, the slave enemy received their pay from banks but after several attacks they began taking their pay inside the headquarters that we have now attacked." He said the attack killed 39 soldiers and police, including senior commanders.

**August 25:** A suicide bomber set off his explosives inside the Shi'ite Imam Zaman mosque in Kabul. Three gunmen wearing police uniforms ran into the building, firing at worshippers and taking several hostages before starting a gun battle with police. People jumped from windows. Twenty-eight people, including four policemen and ten worshippers, and several women and children, were killed and 50, many

of them children, were injured during the five-hour siege. The mosque's imam and a security guard outside the mosque were killed, as were the mother and aunt of Sayed Jan Agha, 34, and a couple in their 70s, Hajji Ghulam Hassan Behsudi and his wife, Fatima Behsudi. ISIS-K claimed credit; the Taliban condemned the attack. The four terrorists died. The *New York Times* reported on August 27 that reports differed on the casualty numbers: the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission said 40 died and 90 were wounded, while congregation members said 40–50 died.

In the morning, the Taliban attacked a security outpost in Kandahar Province, killing four soldiers and wounding seven policemen.

**August 27:** Gunmen attacked a police convoy in Nimroz Province, killing Dilaram district police chief Abdul Hakim and another district police officer. Hakim was returning to duty from the provincial capital Zaranj. The Taliban is active in the area.

A suicide car bomber attacked an army convoy in Nawa District in Helmand Province, killing ten people, including soldiers and civilians, and wounding eight people. No one claimed credit.

**August 29:** A Taliban suicide bomber hit the Nawe Kabul bank not far from the U.S. Embassy, killing five people and wounding eight as government employees waited to withdraw salaries ahead of Eid al-Adha celebrations. The bomber was shot as he attempted to get inside the bank.

**August 31:** A roadside bomb hit a police car in Farah Province, killing Phusht koh district police chief Rahat Shah and two other police officers. The Taliban was blamed.

A deminer died while trying to disarm a mine that exploded in Paktya Province.

**September 6:** A suicide bomber riding a motorcycle hit the third security gate of Bagram Airfield in Parwan Province, injuring six people. The wounded were taken inside the U.S. military base at the airfield for treatment. 17090602

A roadside bomb killed two civilians in Laghman Province. No one claimed credit.

**September 8:** Gunmen killed four police officers who were traveling from Bala Buluk district to Farah city in Farah Province. No one claimed credit, but the Taliban is active in the area.

**September 9:** Gunmen on a motorcycle killed Mullah Gul Mohammad Hanafyar, the religious council chief who was the target of the attack, and his security guard, as he was about to get out of his vehicle near his home in Kapisa Province. Eight suspects were arrested.

**September 13:** A suicide bomber detonated explosives outside the main cricket stadium in Kabul, killing one policeman and two civilians as a match of the Shpageeza Cricket League 2017 went on inside. All players and spectators were reported safe. The Taliban was suspected.

**September 14:** A police officer's car hit a roadside bomb during a morning patrol in Ghazni Province, killing a district police chief. The Taliban was suspected. No one claimed credit.

**September 15:** A suicide car bomber hit a convoy of international troops of the Train, Advise and Assist Command South near Kandahar city, killing Romanian Corporal Madalin Stoica, 41 and wounding two other Romanian soldiers. The Taliban was suspected. 17091503

**September 17:** A bomb went off in a computer and mobile phone market in Khost Province, killing four civilians and wounding 15.

A bomb killed two civilians and wounded two others in Laghman Province.

No one claimed credit for the attacks.

**September 18:** A roadside bomb hit a fuel tanker in Kandahar Province, killing six people. No one claimed credit.

Gelani Farhad, spokesman for the provincial governor in Herat Province, said the Taliban killed two employees from the customs department and their driver who were kidnapped 20 days earlier in August. Their bodies were found in the evening near a road in the Islam Qalah area in Herat. Negotiations conducted by local tribal leaders failed. The kidnappers did not demand a ransom.

**September 20:** The Taliban killed five policemen and wounded two others during an evening attack on a checkpoint in Shahjoy district of Zabul Province. Five policemen escaped. The Taliban seized all the checkpoint's weapons before they were repelled by police reinforcements. No one claimed credit.

**September 21:** The Taliban was blamed when a road bomb killed police chief Mira Jan in Jaghatu district of Ghazni Province and wounded another officer. No one claimed credit.

**September 23:** The Taliban attacked the vehicle of a district police chief while on patrol in Helmand Province, killing him and wounding another police officer.

**September 24:** A suicide car bomber hit a convoy of international forces in Kabul, wounding three civilians. 17092401

**September 26:** Two police officers died and three were wounded in a roadside bombing while they were on a routine patrol in the Ghoryan district of Herat Province.

A bomb exploded at a checkpoint in Farah Province, sparking a two-hour gun battle that killed three police officers.

The Taliban was suspected in the two bombings.

A sixth policeman and six Taliban died in an overnight gunbattle in Takhar Province's Khoja Ghor district.

**September 27:** *NPR*, *CNN*, and *AP* reported that the Taliban and ISIS-K claimed credit for firing twelve rockets at Kabul's Hamid Karzai International Airport while Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg held talks with Afghan officials. Five Afghan civilians were injured when a rocket hit a house.

The Taliban attacked the compounds of the Maruf district governor in Kandahar Province, killing twelve Afghan security forces and wounding four others during the night. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi said the Taliban captured weapons and other items.

**September 28:** During the evening, a sticky bomb attached to a counter-terrorism police vehicle in Kabul killed two Afghan policemen and a civilian and wounded 16 others. No group claimed responsibility.

**September 29:** A suicide bomber disguised as a sheepherder set off his explosives 1,000 meters from the Hussainia Mosque in Kabul as Shi'ite worshippers were leaving, killing five people and wounding 29 others. Police had stopped him at a checkpoint. Police detained a second suspect.

The Taliban killed five police and wounded two during the morning at a checkpoint in Bala Bluk district in Farah Province. The Afghan air force struck three Taliban vehicles as they tried to escape, killing twenty.

**October 7:** An Afghan Army Corps air strike at a Taliban training center in Kohistanat district in Sari Pul Province killed seven terrorists and wounded eleven Taliban during the evening.

**October 8:** Gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in the Dand-e Ghori area of Baghlan Province, killing two police officers and wounding another. The Taliban was suspected.

**October 14:** Before midnight, Afghan police at a checkpoint seized a small cargo truck carrying three tons of explosives hidden under boxes of tomatoes inside the truck's cargo hold, foiling an attempted suicide bombing near Kabul Polytechnic University. The driver had ignored orders to stop. Police then fired at the truck, injuring the driver. Police found 30 buckets filled with ammonium nitrate hidden beneath boxes of tomatoes.

**October 16:** The Afghan intelligence agency arrested two men who were traveling in a car full of explosives.

**October 17:** Taliban attacks on Afghan security units killed 74 people in several attacks.

Two Taliban car bombers in a Humvee and a mini truck drove into two areas outside a command center for local police and a main training site for police recruits in Gardez in Paktia Province. Five other terrorists wearing suicide belts took over towers and fired indiscriminately, killing 41 people, including local police chief Toryalai Abadani, and injuring 130 people, including police and civilians who were there on government business. Hamza Aqmhal, a student at Paktia University, two kilometers away, was slightly injured by flying glass.

Taliban suicide bombers hit a government compound in Ghazni Province. Gunmen entered the site, killing 25 government security officers and five civilians and wounding 48 people.

The Taliban attacked a government compound in Shibkho district in Farah Province, killing three policemen.

**October 18:** Taliban attacks killed 58 Afghan security forces across the country.

In a nighttime attack, two suicide car bombers in Humvees attacked an Afghan National Army base in Kandahar's Maiwand district, where 60 soldiers were stationed, sparking a several-hour gun battle that killed 43 soldiers and wounded nine others. Six soldiers went missing. Ten terrorists died in a U.S. airstrike, according to NATO officials.

In a nighttime ambush in Balkh Province, the Taliban killed six policemen.

A nighttime Taliban attack on police posts in Farah Province killed nine policemen. Some 22 gunmen died in the ensuing gunbattle.

**October 20:** Dozens of worshipers were killed when suicide bombers struck two mosques.

A suicide bomber set off explosives during evening prayers inside the Shi'ite Imam Zaman Mosque in southwestern Kabul's Dasht-e-Barchi neighborhood, an enclave of ethnic Hazaras, killing 39 people, including women and children, and injuring 45, some critically. ISIS-K said its fighter Abu Ammar al-Turkmani "detonated his explosive vest among the apostates." Hussainzada, spiritual head of the Hazaras, said the bomber stood at the front of the prayer hall in the first row. He appeared to be Uzbek. Among the dead were Zareen Gul, 60, and her grandson, Ali Seyar Nazari, ten. The *New York Times* reported on October 22 that 58 were killed and 64 wounded, including six children under age twelve and four women.

A suicide bomber hit a Sunni mosque in the Do Laina district in Ghowr Province in the afternoon, killing 33 people, including former Taliban commander Abdul Ahed and seven of his bodyguards.

**October 21:** Around 6 a.m., three rockets landed in Kabul's fortified Green Zone in the early morning. Two exploded near the NATO compound housing U.S. military personnel and other foreign forces. 17102101

A few hours later, a suicide bomber detonated explosives near the entrance gate of the Marshal Fahim Military Academy, killing 14 military cadets on a bus.

**October 22:** A bomb exploded in the morning at a restaurant in Takhar Province, killing Nazuk Mir, a warlord during the struggle to drive out Soviet troops in the 1980s, and his bodyguard, and wounding eight other people.

**October 23:** The Taliban attacked a security post in Waghaz district in Ghazni Province in the morning, killing four policemen and injuring two others.

Two rockets landed in Kabul but caused no casualties in a morning attack.

Fighting in Jawzjan Province between the Taliban and ISIS-K killed six ISIS-K members and 42 Taliban fighters.

**October 24:** The Taliban attacked two military posts in western Afghanistan, killing 11 soldiers. In Farah Province's Pusht Road district, the Taliban killed nine troops and wounded four in a nighttime attack that lasted four hours. Government spokesman Mohammad Naser Mehri said Afghan warplanes were deployed and 17 Taliban fighters were killed. In Herat Province's Kushki Kuhna district, the Taliban hit an army post, killing two soldiers and wounding five.

**October 28:** The Taliban attacked two police checkpoints in Ghazni Province in the early morning, killing nine police and wounding two police. Six Taliban were killed and nine others injured in an hour-long gun battle. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said 14 police, including both commanders of the checkpoints, were killed.

**October 29:** During the morning, the Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Kunduz Province, killing 13 policemen and leaving only one policeman alive.

During a Taliban attack on a checkpoint in Zabul Province, six police and eight gunmen were killed and eight police and a dozen terrorists were wounded.

**October 30:** Taliban attacks on two checkpoints killed 15 police.

An attack on a checkpoint in Ghazni Province killed nine police and wounded four others. Seven Taliban died and five were wounded in the hour-long gun battle.

A sticky bomb attached to a military vehicle went off in a market in Puli Khomri in Baghlan Province, wounding 13 civilians. No one claimed credit.

**October 31:** After 4 p.m., an adolescent male ISIS-K suicide bomber on foot hit a heavily guarded area of Kabul housing several diplomatic missions, including the U.S. Embassy, and the offices of international organizations, killing seven people and injuring more than 20. The bomb went off 500 yards from the U.S. Embassy and near the UK and Canadian Embassies. No foreigners were hurt; all victims were Afghan civilians, many who worked in foreign embassies, Afghan government facilities and other offices inside the barricaded Green Zone.

**November 1:** A sticky bomb exploded against a fuel tanker, killing eight civilians and wounding 27 civilians on a nearby bus in Chara Kar in Parwan Province. No one claimed credit.

A suicide car bomb targeted district police commander Nabi Gechi in Balkh province, killing one person and injuring ten people, including Gechi. No one claimed credit.

**November 4:** U.S. Sergeant 1st Class Stephen B. Cribben died in an operation in Logar Province. 17110401

**November 5:** Two gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death a Pakistani employee of the Pakistani consulate's visa section in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province. The victim had gone shopping without a security detail. No group claimed credit. 17110502

**November 7:** ISIS-K attacked *Shamshad*, one of the country's most popular Pashto-language TV stations in Kabul, killing two people and injuring 20. A suicide bomber set off his explosives at the station gates, killing a security guard. One of the three gunmen, who wore police uniforms, stormed into the compound and killed a female employee. The station stopped broadcasting during the ensuing three-hour gun battle. Station director Abid Ehsas told another station, "The majority of our colleagues managed to flee. The number of wounded is high, some were hurt by glass, some threw themselves down off the building." The station had not been threatened before the attack.

**November 9:** A suicide bomber targeting businessman Abdul Ghani—a former militant and former governor of Marmul district—killed him and wounded two others outside a Mazari restaurant in Balkh Province.

**November 10:** A suicide car bomber hit a border police compound in Lashkar Gah, capital of Helmand Province, killing a policeman and wounding two.

**November 13:** An early morning Taliban attack on a police check point near the city of Farah in Farah Province killed eight police officers and slightly wounded one policeman who was subsequently arrested on suspicion of links with the gunmen.

**November 16:** An ISIS-K suicide bomber attacked a political gathering of supporters of powerful factional leader Atta Mohammad Noor, a former militia leader and longtime governor of Balkh Province, killing a dozen people, including police officers and civilians, in Kabul. The Taliban denied any role. Police stopped the bomber outside the entrance of the hotel where the Jamiat-i-Islami party members were meeting. Atta was a vocal critic of the National Unity Government led by President Ashraf Ghani. Atta was not present at the hotel.

**December 1:** The U.S. military announced that it had killed Mullah Shah Wali, the leader of the Taliban's "Red Unit" in Helmand province, with a strike in the district of Musa Qala. One of Wali's deputy commanders and three other terrorists also were killed.

The Taliban Red Unit planned numerous suicide bombings and improvised explosive attacks and coordinated assaults against civilians and Afghan and coalition troops. He coordinated the resupply of ammunition and explosives for the Taliban throughout Helmand.

**December 3:** *AFP* reported that a suicide bomber drove a motorcycle into a crowd at a political rally in a sports stadium in Jalalabad in support for President Ashraf Ghani, killing six people, including a woman and a child, and wounding 13 civilians, some seriously. ISIS-K and the Taliban were suspected.

**December 5:** The government and U.S. military officials announced that joint U.S.-Afghan operations in the last few weeks in Ghazni, Paktia and Zabul Provinces killed Omar bin Khatab, alias Omar Mansoor, the number two leader of al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), and scores of other al-Qaeda members. He was the most senior leader killed in Afghanistan since late 2001. U.S. military officials said he was involved in fighting Afghanistan government and foreign troops and advised the Taliban in night attacks using rockets and mortars. The U.S. and Afghanistan launched a series of strikes on November 19 targeting alleged narcotics laboratories, a key source of revenue for the Taliban. The government said "80 other members" of al-Qaeda were killed, including three top figures, in operations in Zabul and Paktia near the border with Pakistan and adjacent to Ghazni Province and 27 members of the network were captured. Khatab was from the tribal regions in Pakistan and was in his early 40s.

**December 9:** The Taliban claimed credit for a morning attack on soldiers at a checkpoint in Ghazni Province that killed three Afghan soldiers and wounded two other soldiers. Eight gunmen were killed and more than ten were wounded. The Taliban stole weapons and ammunition.

In Kabul, gunmen killed ten members of the same family in a private dispute. Three other civilians were wounded.

**December 17:** The Taliban killed eleven police in morning attacks on checkpoints in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province.

A suicide car bomber hit a convoy of foreign forces in Kandahar Province, killing an Afghan woman and wounding five civilian bystanders. There were no casualties among the international forces. 17121701

**December 17:** The Taliban attacked a police post in Badghis Province, killing the district police commander and wounding three others.

The *Voice of America* reported that before dawn, the Taliban attacked police outposts around Lashkargah in Helmand Province, killing 14 Afghan troops and injuring several others.

A suicide car bomber hit near a NATO convoy in Kandahar Province, killing a woman passerby and wounding five other civilians, but did not harm any foreign troops.

**December 18:** ISIS-K attacked a partially constructed building near an intelligence training center in Kabul. Afghan security forces shot and killed the three attackers without taking any casualties. The gunmen were wearing police uniforms and attacked with a car bomb and rocket-propelled grenades.

Two bombs went off in Mihterlam, capital of Laghman Province, killing an intelligence service officer and a civilian. Six people, including children, were wounded in the second attack. No one claimed credit.

**December 22:** A suicide car bomber attacked the governor's compound in Kandahar Province's Maiwand district in the morning, killing four policemen and wounded six policemen. The Taliban was suspected.

An evening motorcycle bombing by ISIS-K in Herat Province killed four civilians and wounded six.

**December 25:** *UPI, Reuters* and *AP* reported that during the morning rush hour, an ISIS-K suicide bomber on foot attacked the National Directorate of Security in the heavily-fortified Abdullaq Square area of Kabul's Shash Darak neighborhood, killing ten people, including civilians and NDS personnel, and injuring five, including people passing in a car.

**December 27:** A Taliban suicide car bomber hit a convoy leaving a military base in Lashkar Gah, wounding 15 people, including 14 soldiers.

**December 28:** An ISIS-K suicide bomber hit the Shi'ite Tabayan cultural center in Kabul's western Dasht-e-Barchi neighborhood, killing 41 people and wounding 84, many of whom sustained severe burns, according to the Health Ministry. A government official privately said that the death toll was more than 50, including Said Andleb, who had graduated from university a day earlier, with 100 hurt, including several journalists. *AP* reported that the target might have been the pro–Iran *Afghan Voice* news agency housed in the two-storey building. The terrorists set off explosives in the basement, where scores were marking the December 1979 invasion of Afghanistan by the USSR. They then conducted the attack inside,

throwing grenades at victims being transported to a hospital. ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency said three bombs were used and that the center was funded by Iran. The Taliban denied involvement. Ghulam Hussein told reporters, "My son, 12 years old, was killed in the attack. My nephew was also there, and he has gone missing." *Afghan Voice* journalist Sayed Abbas Hussaini told *Reuters* that one *AV* reporter was killed and two wounded.

A roadside mine in northern Balkh Province killed six shepherd children aged 10, 9 and 8. The Taliban was blamed.

**December 30:** A sticky bomb exploded in Mazar-i-Sharif during the night, injuring 12 people. No one claimed credit.

**December 31:** A rickshaw filled with explosives hit the funeral of a local district chief in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province, killing 17 people and wounding 13. Authorities believed it was remotely detonated. No one claimed credit, and the Taliban denied involvement. Earlier reports said a suicide bomber had set off his explosives vest.

# Algeria

**February 15:** The Defense Ministry announced that soldiers killed five suspected jihadis near Bouira.

**February 17:** The Defense Ministry announced that soldiers killed nine suspected jihadis near Bouira. Security forces found three semi-automatic rifles, five pistols and munitions.

**February 27:** A would-be IS suicide bomber attacked a police station in Constantine during the night. *APS* reported that a police officer in front of the building fired at the terrorist's explosive belt, setting it off before he could get inside the building. The terrorist died and three officers were lightly wounded.

# Bahrain

**January 1:** *AFP* reported that gunmen attacked Jau Prison outside Manama where Shi'ites convicted for anti-government protests were held, killing one policeman and allowing ten inmates to escape. *AP* reported on January 4 that the Interior Ministry suspended the general director of reformation and rehabilitation, the head of reformation and rehabilitation at Jaw prison, and the director of security and protection and referred them to prosecutors. No group claimed credit.

**January 15:** During protests of the executions of three convicted bombers, a police officer was injured when several people shot at a police patrol in Bani Jamra. The Ashtar Brigade, a Shi'ite militant group, took responsibility.

**January 29:** The Interior Ministry said that police 1st Lt. Hisham Hassan Mohammed al-Hamadi was shot dead in an attack claimed by the Ashtar Brigade, a Shi'ite group that earlier claimed several bombings and attacks.

**February 26:** A bomb hit a bus, wounding five police officers before a court hearing the next day for prominent Shi'ite cleric Sheikh Isa Qassim. He lost his citizenship in June 2016 and could be deported. Qassim's next hearing was scheduled for March 14, 2017.

**March 4:** Authorities arrested 25 suspected members of a 54-member terrorist group allegedly backed by Iran who went to Iraq and Iran to "receive training in the use of explosives and firearms at Revolutionary Guard camps." Police seized firearms, bombs, cars, boats and a drone. They said the group's leader was in Germany.

**March 23:** *Al-Wasat* reported that a court sentenced three people to death, four to life in prison, eight to 15 years, and two to ten years for creating a terrorist cell that made explosives used against security forces.

**March 27:** The Interior Ministry claimed that a 14-member group backed by Iran planned assassinations in the island kingdom. The Ministry said that eleven members of the group "are suspected of receiving overseas military training under the supervision of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards and Hezbollah in Iraq." Police had arrested 14 suspects in raids that saw officers seize weapons and explosives. The group's two leaders were hiding in Iran.

**March 29:** *Al-Wasat* reported that a court sentenced two people to death on terror charges and handed down lengthy sentences to eleven others, including former lawmaker Hassan Isa, a senior member of the main Shi'ite opposition al-Wefaq group, which was dissolved in 2016, who was sentenced to ten years in prison. The other ten were sentenced to between ten years and life. The case involved 24 defendants charged with establishing a terrorist cell that killed police officers and was involved in other acts of violence. The group was also found guilty of, inter alia, harboring fugitives. The court ordered eight of the defendants stripped of their nationality.

**June 3:** Hackers believed allied with Mokhtar Brigade Shi'ite militants seized control of the *Twitter* account of Foreign Minister Khalid al-Khalifa, posting threats to its royal family and promising to "make castles of your skulls." No group claimed credit. The hackers posted videos and images of slain protesters in Bahrain and dead civilians in the Saudi-led war in Yemen. One photo caption said, "We are going to paint the floor with your blood."

**June 15:** In a trial of Diraz Youth accused of terrorism, 26 defendants lost their citizenship, 18 of them received life sentences, and the other eight received 15-year sentences.

**June 19:** The Interior Ministry blamed "terrorists" when a bomb killed a police officer and wounded two in Diraz, home to prominent Shi'ite cleric Isa Qassim. The February 14 Youth Coalition posted a video showing its masked members throwing gasoline bombs at police gathered near Qassim's home. The group is named after the date of the start of Bahrain's 2011 Arab Spring protests.

**June 29:** Authorities confiscated more than 50 kilograms of explosives, other materials including bomb-making diagrams, and ammunition and detained several suspects as part of a raid targeting the Ashtar Brigade, a Shi'ite group, in the northeastern village of al-Dair. The group had claimed several bombings and attacks.

**August 24:** The Ministry of Interior announced the arrest of seven people linked to a ten-person cell of a Shi'ite group "suspected of carrying out terrorist activities." The Ministry said its leader was Hussain Ali Ahmed Dawood, who was believed to be in Iran and who was a leader in the Ashtar Brigade, which claimed past bombings and attacks in Bahrain. The Ministry announced the arrest of the group's main bomb maker. Dawood and two drivers earlier convicted in terrorism cases remained at large.

**October:** A bomb wounded five policemen on Budaiya road, near Manama, who were guarding a procession by Shi'ites marking the annual Ashura festival, which commemorates the death of Prophet Mohammad's grandson Imam Hussein 1,400 years earlier.

**October 27:** A remotely-detonated roadside bomb hit a police bus on the Khalifa bin Salman highway near the Jidhafs area outside Manama, during the afternoon, killing a police officer and injuring eight others. The Shi'ite Mukhtar Brigade said the bombing "gave the enemy a taste of what they've been doing to us all along" and said the God's Promise Brigade, which carried out a 2015 attack on police, was responsible.

**November 10:** An explosion at a state-run Bahrain Petroleum Company oil pipeline near the village of Buri sent flames shooting into the night sky and damaged cars and buildings. The Interior Ministry said that Iran was in communication and guiding those responsible for the pipeline explosion and other attacks.

# Egypt

**January:** Late in the month, Coptic Christian merchant Wael Milad was killed by terrorists who stormed his shop.

**January 9:** A suicide bomber crashed his explosives-filled white garbage truck into an Egyptian security checkpoint outside a police building in el-Arish in northern Sinai, killing ten people and hospitalizing 22. Gunmen wearing black masks then fired rocket-propelled grenades at the troops around the checkpoint. Three floors of the police building were blown out. Unconfirmed reports said that several security personnel were kidnapped. The garbage truck had been stolen days earlier in el-Arish. Egypt's Islamic State affiliate claimed credit the next day. Security authorities claimed that they killed five attackers and wounded three others. It also said seven policemen were killed, along with civilians, and that six policemen and six civilians were wounded. A second group of terrorists tried to attack another checkpoint, also in el-Arish, but came under heavy gunfire and were forced to flee. It said that attack killed one policeman.

**January 16:** Gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in the remote Wadi al-Jadid Province, killing eight policemen and wounding three other officers. Jihadis were suspected.

**January 23:** Jihadis in the Sinai Peninsula attacked a taxi carrying soldiers returning from monthly leave in a taxi, killing five but sparing the driver.

**February 8:** Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system shot down several rockets fired from Egypt toward Eilat, Israel during the night. Residents heard several explosions. No injuries were reported. 17020802

**February 12:** Gunmen killed local vet and Coptic Christian Bahgat Zakher in el-Arish.

**February 16:** IS was suspected when two gunmen on a motorbike shot in the head and killed Coptic Christian teacher Gamal Tawfiq, 50, as he walked from home to work at the el-Samran School in el-Arish.

**February 20:** Egypt's IS affiliate released a 20-minute video showing Abu Abdullah al-Masri, the suicide bomber who attacked a Coptic Christian church in Cairo in December 2016 and vowing more attacks on Egypt's Christian minority, the group's "favorite prey." The narrator said the attack was "only the beginning."

**February 22:** Terrorists killed a Coptic Christian man and burned his son alive, leaving their bodies on a roadside in el-Arish.

**February 23:** Jihadis were suspected of attacking the el-Arish home of Coptic Christian Kamel Youssef, a plumber, shooting him to death in front of the rest of the family and kidnapping then fatally stabbing his daughter. Her body was found near a police station. Egypt's Islamic State affiliate had vowed in a video to step up attacks against minority Christians.

**February 25:** Members of the local IS affiliate attacked a main market in Rafah and abducted three men they accused of cooperating with the military. The body of one of the men was found, but the other two were missing as of February 27.

**February 27:** Members of the local IS affiliate abducted Islam el-Sakadra from Rafah, accused him of cooperating with the military, tortured him, then shot him to death.

**March 8:** Islamic State-affiliated terrorists remotely detonated a bomb, killing Colonel Yasser Mohammed el-Hadidi, a senior officer in el-Arish. Interior Minister Magdy Abdel-Ghaffar and other senior officials attended his funeral the next day.

**March 9:** A security patrol found a terrorist planting a bomb by a road in el-Arish during the evening. Security forces shot him to death while his accomplices fled, then set off the bomb, killing a lieutenant colonel and a captain and wounding four. Police found a suicide vest at the site.

**March 23:** Following an army raid on a jihadi hideout in central Sinai, 15 terrorists were killed and seven arrested. Three officers and seven enlisted men were killed by roadside bombs while chasing escaping gunmen. Troops destroyed a large amount of explosives and seized other weapons, ammunition and equipment, including roadside bombs, computers, solar panels, documents and mobile phones.

**March 24:** A man died and three members of his family were injured when a device exploded while he was cleaning up his backyard in Cairo's Maadi suburb. It was not clear what triggered the blast.

**March 25:** Three policemen died and six were injured when their armored vehicle hit a roadside bomb south of el-Arish in the Sinai Peninsula. Jihadis were suspected.

Later in the day, a sniper killed a policeman manning a checkpoint south of el-Arish.

**April 1:** A bomb hidden in an abandoned motorbike exploded near a police training facility in Tanta, killing one policeman and injuring 15 people, including 13 policemen.

**April 9:** Two IS bombs hit two Coptic Christian churches on Palm Sunday.

At 9:30 a.m., a bomb planted in a pew went off inside St. George's Church in Tanta, killing 27 and injuring 78. Father Danial Maher, priest of the church for 15 years, said he lost his son, Beshoy, 23, who was among the six deacons who were killed. Victoria Michell's father was killed. Among the wounded was Magdy George Youssef, 58, a deacon at St. George's, who sustained ear injuries. He found his wife at home, with burns to her face. *Al-Ahram* reported that regional police chief Brigadier General Hossam Elddin Khalifa was fired and replaced by Major General Tarek Hassouna. A bomb was defused at the church in late March.

Three hours later in Alexandria, a man wearing a blue sweater tied over his shoulders was unable to get through a security gate to Saint Mark's Cathedral and set off his bomb, killing 18 civilians, including six Muslims, and four policemen, and injuring 48. He passed a female police officer talking to a woman, entered a metal detector, and detonated the bomb, killing a male police officer and a female police officer. Coptic Pope Tawadros II was presiding over the Palm Sunday Mass at the church, but was unharmed.

IS said the two Egyptian suicide bombers were Abu Ishaq al-Masri and Abu al-Baraa al-Masri, warning, "The Crusaders and their apostate followers must be aware that the bill between us and them is very large, and they will be paying it like a river of blood from their sons, if God is willing."

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi declared a three-month state of emergency.

**April 16:** Local tribesmen kidnapped three members of the Islamic State in the Sinai peninsula. The group retaliated with RPG attacks. Three people were injured in the clashes. Terrorists also fired at a truck smuggling cigarettes.

**April 18:** *UPI* reported that IS gunmen fired from an elevated hilltop on security forces at a police checkpoint near the 6th Century St. Catherine's Monastery, an Eastern Orthodox church in the Sinai, killing one police officer and injuring four others. Some gunmen were wounded. The next day, police killed one of the attackers. Bedouin tribesmen helped find the terrorists.

**April 20:** The armed forces said airstrikes at "terrorist strongholds" in the northern and central Sinai killed 19 IS members.

**May 1:** Gunmen in two cars fired machine guns at a police patrol in Cairo's Nasr City neighborhood, killing three policemen, including two police captains, and wounding five. Hasm (Decisiveness) claimed credit for the late-night attack. The government suspected it was linked to the banned Muslim Brotherhood.

**May 2:** The Tarabeen (variant Tarabin) tribe in the Sinai Peninsula claimed it killed eight suspected IS fighters and captured three more in the town of Rafah along the Gaza border.

**May 4:** The self-described leader of the Islamic State affiliate in Egypt said in an interview with the group's *al-Nabaa* newsletter that he has vowed to escalate attacks against Christians, urging Muslims to steer clear of Christian gatherings and western embassies as they are targets. "Targeting the churches is part of our war on infidels." He also called for lone wolf attacks.

**May 6:** IS gunmen killed Christian man Nabil Saber Ayoub, 50, inside a barbershop in el-Arish in the northern Sinai during the night.

The decapitated bodies of a father and his two sons recently kidnapped by jihadis were found lying in Rafah, northern Sinai. They said the mother of the two siblings was killed the previous week by IS ter-

rorists who raided the family home in Yamit, west of Rafah, and kidnapped the three men they said were collaborators.

Police shot to death two Brotherhood faction members in a shoot-out north of Cairo. Police said they were involved in a bomb attack that killed two policemen and injured others in March in Tanta north of Cairo.

**May 8:** The Interior Ministry announced that authorities had killed eight members of the banned Muslim Brotherhood group "before carrying out terrorist acts" after Brotherhood members fired on security forces when they were approached at an undisclosed date or location in the desert near the country's southern border.

**May 10:** The Islamic State-Sinai Province affiliate claimed credit for attacking local Tarabin tribesmen manning a checkpoint near a militant stronghold south of Rafah, killing ten Tarabin members. The group said on May 12 that it had killed 15 "apostates" and wounded others.

**May 21:** *UPI* reported that Attorney General Nabil Sadik referred 48 suspected Islamic State terrorists to a military court for the bombing of Coptic churches in which more than 70 people died and establishing two terrorist cells in Cairo and Qena affiliated with IS that bombed the St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Cairo's al-Abbasiya neighborhood in December 2016 and the bombings in April 2017 of Saint Mark's Church in Alexandria and the Mar Girgis church in Tanta. The defendants were also accused of killing and intending to kill church visitors and Egyptian security forces, of making bombs and ammunition and of training with ISIS in Syria and Libya. They were also believed responsible for an attack in Egypt's Western Desert in which eight police officers were killed in January 2017.

**May 25:** Terrorists shot to death an off-duty policeman in el-Arish in the northern Sinai.

A roadside bomb hit an armored vehicle in Rafah, killing three conscripts.

**May 26:** *NPR* reported that ten masked gunmen in three SUVs fired on a bus taking Coptic Christians, including children, to the remote desert St. Samuel the Confessor Monastery in Maghagha in Minya Governorate, killing 29, including two girls aged 2 and 4, and wounding 25. The German and Israeli governments, Hizballah and Hamas condemned the attack. IS claimed credit on *Aamaq* and said it killed 32. The gunmen wore military-style uniforms. One of their SUVs got stuck in the sand. The terrorists set it on fire and hijacked a truck. Egypt conducted airstrikes against terrorist bases in eastern Libya in which the gunmen were trained.

**May 31:** A suicide belt exploded as soldiers were sweeping a militant area in the Bahriya Oasis in the western desert bordering Libya, killing three officers and one soldier.

**June 18:** The Interior Ministry announced that a remotely-detonated roadside bomb hit a police vehicle in the wealthy Cairo suburb of Maadi in the morning, killing an officer and wounding four others. Many foreign diplomats, teachers and other expatriates live in the area. *MENA* reported that two of those wounded soon left the hospital while the two others, including an officer, underwent more extensive treatment. The next day, Hasm, which is suspected of links to the banned Muslim Brotherhood, claimed credit, observing that "members of the security forces are legitimate targets" since they have shed "the blood of peaceful demonstrators." Hasm said it was protesting Parliament's move to transfer two Red Sea islands to Saudi Arabia, which it called "selling the homeland."

**June 20:** The air force said airstrikes killed a dozen "extremely dangerous" terrorists and destroyed four vehicles as it hit a "terrorist stronghold" of the local IS affiliate, formerly known as Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, in northern Sinai.

**June 22:** The Interior Ministry said authorities killed seven IS gunmen hiding in a western desert camp who were involved with recent attacks on the country's embattled Christian minority, including three church bombings and a deadly bus shooting.

**June 27:** The air force announced it had destroyed a dozen vehicles loaded with weapons, ammunition and explosives, after receiving intelligence that "criminal elements" were attempting to cross the western border with Libya.

**July 5:** A terrorist fired on a toll booth in Cairo's al-Ayat district, killing two retired officers—a colonel and a captain—and an active duty soldier.

**July 7:** The Islamic State affiliate claimed credit when terrorists set off a suicide car bomb and dozens of masked, pedestrian terrorists fired on a military checkpoint in the south Rafah village of el-Barth in the Sinai Peninsula, killing 23 security troops, including special forces Colonel Ahmed el-Mansi, and wounding 33. Army spokesman Tamer el-Rifai posted on *Facebook* that 26 army personnel were killed or injured. Security officials said the terrorists arrived in two dozen Land Cruiser SUVs and fired machine guns for 30 minutes. He claimed that the army foiled attacks targeting several other checkpoints in southern Rafah and that 40 terrorists were killed. The terrorists ran off with weapons and ammunition. The IS affiliate later said it used two suicide car bombers and lost only five fighters. Hamas's spokesman Fawzi Barhoum deemed the attack "a criminal, a terrorist, and a coward attack that doesn't target Egypt only, but the security and stability of the entire Arab nation." Armed forces airstrikes near Rafah killed 40 terrorists and wounded dozens.

Egyptian security and medical officers said a mortar shell hit a vehicle in in the el-Zohor district of el-Arish in the Sinai Peninsula during the evening, killing two civilians and critically injuring four members of a single family.

The Interior Ministry announced that gunmen on a motorcycle shot to death police Captain Ibrahim Azazi as he was leaving his Cairo house in the Nile Delta province of Qalyoubiya to pray at a nearby mosque. The Hasm group, suspected of links to the Muslim Brotherhood, claimed credit, saying the victim was a member of the National Security System, a tool for "oppression and tyranny."

**July 8:** The Interior Ministry announced that during the night, a roadside bomb hit a vehicle in a police patrol in el-Arish, killing two conscripts and wounding nine others.

**July 8–9:** Police killed two suspected members of Hasm ("Decisiveness") in a Cairo suburb.

**July 10:** Police raided a hideout for new IS recruits in Assiut Province, killing six of them in a shoot-out.

**July 11:** The Interior Ministry announced that in a shoot-out with police in Fayoum, a Hasm member with suspected links to the banned Muslim Brotherhood was killed. Two people who were with the man escaped, leaving their SUV behind.

**July 14:** At 11 a.m., a male Egyptian graduate student in his 20s stabbed six female tourists at a hotel in the Red Sea resort of Hurghada. Two German women died; the other four women were hospitalized. The victims were stabbed in the face, neck, and feet. The victims were initially identified as Ukrainians. Two of the surviving women were later identified as Czechs and the others were from the Ukraine. Hurghada General Hospital contradicted that report, saying that three of the wounded women were Armenian and one was Czech. An Egyptian security official said the victims included three women from Serbia, two from Ukraine and one from Poland. The attacker was arrested at noon after being pulled from the water. He had arrived by swimming up from a nearby beach. An eyewitness told the privately-owned *al-Masry al-Yawm* newspaper regarding the attacker, who was wearing jeans and a black T-shirt, "I saw him speak over the phone and heard him say that he will jump in the water, asking the person on the line to pick him up." Authorities said the attacker yelled in Arabic, "Stay away, I don't want Egyptians." On July 26 the Czech Foreign Ministry said the injured Czech woman, 36, who had back and leg injuries, was on life support and nearing death. By then, the four female tourists were identified as two Armenians, a Ukrainian, and the Czech woman. The Czech Foreign Ministry reported on July 27 that the wounded Czech woman had died. 17071401

Hours earlier, the Hasm jihadi group was suspected when machine gunners on a motorcycle shot to death five policemen in their vehicle while patrolling Abusir village in Giza's Badrashin area, part of Greater Cairo. The slain policemen were part of the force tasked to guard the district of Saqqara, site of temples, tombs, funerary complexes, and the famous Step Pyramid of King Djoser, the oldest of Egypt's 90-plus pyramids. The terrorists fled when a policeman returned fire. Earlier reports said masked gunmen attacked a checkpoint. Attackers stole the weapons and radios of the victims and tried to torch the bodies. The privately-owned Egyptian TV network *CBC Extra* reported that surveillance cameras in a nearby gas station showed the attackers wearing police uniforms. On July 26, the Interior Ministry said security forces had killed four suspects in a clash at a hideout in the Cairo suburbs. Two other suspects were arrested in a hideout in Giza.

**July 17:** Jihadis conducted several attacks against Egyptian police in the Sinai Peninsula, killing five and wounding eleven. Gunmen fired on a vehicle then torched it in el-Arish. When first responders arrived, the terrorists set off a roadside bomb. The two attacks killed five policemen and wounded another five.

A roadside bomb struck a third armored vehicle near the airport south of el-Arish, wounding six police.

**July 20:** *MENA* quoted the Interior Ministry as saying that gunmen hiding in plantation land fired at the last of a three-car police convoy on the main Cairo-to-Fayoum road, killing one policeman and injuring three others. Hasm claimed credit, saying, "This is in response to the blatant crimes … including liquidation of those in forced disappearances."

**July 23:** The Interior Ministry announced that its forces killed eight Hasm members at a training camp in Fayoum governorate southwest of Cairo. Authorities seized weapons and ammunition and arrested five other Hasm members in Giza and Sharqiya.

**August 3:** *MENA* reported that during the night, two drive-by gunmen fired from a car at a police checkpoint in Asna, killing a policeman and a civilian and wounding three civilians. Police chased the assailants, arresting one. The other fled. No group claimed credit.

**August 9:** Gunmen attacked a police vehicle en route to el-Arish in the morning, killing a police officer, a low-ranking policeman and two conscripts. The next day, the IS affiliate claimed credit.

**August 15:** Jihadi gunmen were suspected of shooting to death two policemen in el-Arish. Gunmen fired on a police lieutenant's car, killing him instantly. Terrorists later shot dead a policeman as he left his home.

**August 20:** A jihadi sniper shot to death a policeman on duty at a checkpoint in el-Arish during the night.

A roadside bomb hit an armored vehicle truck in Rafah during the night. The soldiers then came under fire. One soldier was killed and five others were wounded. Jihadis were suspected.

**August 24:** The Interior Ministry said security forces killed two Hasm members in a shoot-out at their hideout northwest of Cairo. The men, both in their 30s, used a desert hideout in the Wadi el-Natroun area to manufacture improvised explosive devices. Authorities found weapons and ammunition.

**September 10:** *MENA* reported that police raided two adjacent apartments in Cairo's Ard el-Liwa district and killed ten suspected Hasm terrorists. A terrorist was killed when his bomb exploded prematurely. Five policemen, including two officers, were wounded in the morning clash. Police confiscated rifles, ammunition, bomb-making materials and explosive devices, maps of vital state installations and computers in which instructions and details of future attacks were stored at the apartments.

**September 11:** Terrorists attacked a police convoy in the Sinai Peninsula, killing 18 police, including two police lieutenants, and wounding seven, including a police brigadier general. IS claimed credit. Roadside bombs destroyed four armored vehicles and a fifth carrying signal jamming equipment. Gunmen then fired machine guns and commandeered a police pickup truck.

**September 13:** Gunmen attacked a military checkpoint outside Rafah in the Sinai Peninsula after a suicide bomber detonated his explosives belt. The morning clash killed two conscripts and five terrorists and wounded two terrorists.

**September 16:** An Egyptian court sentenced seven people to death for links to IS in Libya, weapons possession, inciting violence and participating in the beheading of 21 Egyptian Coptic Christian workers in Libya in 2015.

**October 1:** The *Long War Journal* reported on October 2 that Harakat Sawa'id Masr (Hasm, the Arms Movement of Egypt) claimed responsibility for its October 2 attack against Myanmar's embassy in Cairo, noting that it was a response to Myanmar's treatment of Rohingya Muslims. "This bombing served as a warning to the embassy of murderers, killers of women and children in the Muslim Rakhine State [in Myanmar], and was in solidarity with the sons of this weakened Muslim population." More than 500,000 Rohingya Muslims fled to Bangladesh since August 2017. It was Hasm's first attack against foreign interests. 17100101

**October 2:** Police killed three suspected Hasm terrorists in a shoot-out at a cemetery under construction in May 15th City, a southern Cairo suburb, as they were resisting arrest. Police found rifles and ammunition at the scene.

**October 12:** A Coptic Orthodox Church priest was hit on the head with a cleaver and killed in a poor Cairo district. The attacker fled, but was later arrested.

Gunmen attacked a checkpoint outside el-Arish, killing six soldiers and wounding four other people.

**October 15:** The Islamic State attacked six checkpoints around Sheikh Zuweid in the northern Sinai, killing nine soldiers and wounding 37. Dozens of gunmen fired heavy machine guns and mortars. The Army said that 24 attackers were killed and two SUVs were destroyed.

**October 16:** A dozen jihadis robbed a local bank in el-Arish of $1 million in the morning. One group conducted a distraction by attacking guards with rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire outside the unused Church of Saint George in el-Arish, killing seven people, including three civilians, among them a child, three guards and one soldier, and wounding 15 people, including women and children, in a two-hour gun battle. A second group shot to death the bank's guards, then ran into the bank and emptied its safe. Surveillance video showed the attackers fleeing in a stolen pickup and three motorcycles after leaving explosives inside the bank. *MENA* reported that a bank employee apparently was kidnapped.

**October 20:** *Reuters,* the *New York Times,* and *AP* reported that 59 policemen, including 20 officers—among them two police brigadier generals, a colonel, and ten lieutenant colonels—and 34 conscripts were killed and eight injured in an evening ambush on eight vehicles during a raid on a suspected terrorist hideout in the al-Wahat al-Bahriya area in Giza Province in the western desert. Authorities were following a lead to an apartment thought to house eight suspected Hasm members. The terrorists used rocket-propelled grenades and explosives and fired from atop neighboring buildings at a second security unit called in for backup. Officials suggested that the force ran out of ammunition, and the gunmen captured and later killed several policemen. The government said that 15 gunmen were killed or injured. On November 3, *AP* reported that the previously unknown Ansar al-Islam claimed credit for "the battle of the lion's den" near the Bahariya Oasis.

**October 22:** Criminal court Judge Mohammed Nagi Shehata upheld death sentences for eleven men and handed down life sentences to 14 others over charges including the attempted murder of policemen. Five of those sentenced to death were tried in absentia.

**October 23:** Airstrikes targeted an arms convoy crossing the border from Libya, destroying eight vehicles loaded with weapons and explosives and killing gunmen.

**October 24:** Police arrested a dozen suspected Hasm "cadres" in Fayoum Province and seized 13 weapons and two explosive devices.

**October 27:** Security forces killed 13 gunmen during a raid on a militant hideout in the western desert in the New Valley Province. Authorities found firearms and ammunition.

**October 31:** A mortar shell hit a tractor in el-Arish, killing four civilians and wounding another.

**November 9:** Gunmen from the local IS affiliate, formerly known as Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, ambushed a convoy of cement trucks during the night from an army factory near Nakhl in the Sinai Peninsula, killing eight civilian employees and two soldiers, including Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Hussein Mohammed. The terrorists stole the men's weapons and torched seven trucks.

**November 16:** Armed forces spokesman Colonel Tamer el-Rifai announced that soldiers killed three "high-level" suspected militants and arrested 74 others in sweeps in Sinai Peninsula in recent days. Troops destroyed ammunition, fuel stocks, five four-wheel-drive vehicles and four bomb-making workshops.

**November 24:** *Reuters* and the *Washington Pos*t reported that 25–30 masked terrorists wearing military combat uniforms arrived in five SUVs and set off a suicide bomb after the first Friday sermon inside the al-Rawdah mosque in Bir al-Abed, west of el-Arish in the north Sinai region. They stood at all doors and the twelve windows, blocking any exit opportunity, then fired RPGs and automatic machine guns and gunned down fleeing worshippers and ambulances, killing 305 people, including 27 children, and wounding 128, including Abdallah Abdel Nasser, 14, and main mosque cleric Sheik Mohamed Abdel Fatah Zowraiq. Mohamed Ali said 18 members of his extended family died. The terrorists blocked off escape routes with seven burning cars and walked among the victims, killing those still breathing. Some of the worshippers were sufis. Many victims worked at the local salt mine and were members of the Sawarkah tribe. The mosque belonged to the local Ireer clan. IS-linked Wilayat Sinai terrorists were suspected. The military launched air raids on the suspected getaway vehicles. The terrorists carried ISIS flags, although the group did not claim credit initially for the attack.

**December 19:** A missile hit the el-Arish airport during a visit by Defense Minister Sedki Sobhy and Interior Minister Magdy Abdel-Ghaffar.

**December 20:** Five Islamic gunmen and an army captain were killed and two other soldiers were wounded in a clash with jihadi gunmen in olive orchards near the el-Arish airport. A helicopter was damaged.

**December 22:** The UK designated Hasm and Liwaa el-Thawra as terrorist organizations.

**December 28:** A roadside bomb planted by jihadis in the Sinai Peninsula hit a military vehicle, killing six people, including an army colonel who was the town's military commander, a second officer and four soldiers and injuring three other soldiers. The military convoy was patrolling an area outside Bir al-Abd in northern Sinai.

A rocket-propelled grenade hit a police armored vehicle in el-Arish, killing a conscript. In an ensuing firefight, a civilian driving in the area was caught in the crossfire and killed, as were three gunmen.

Terrorists fired mortar rounds at an army base in central Sinai, killing one soldier and wounding two others.

**December 29:** *Reuters* and *AP* reported that at 10:30 a.m., an IS gunman on a motorcycle fired on the Mar (Saint) Mina Coptic Orthodox Church in Cairo's Helwan suburb and a Christian-owned household appliances shop three miles away, killing 11 people and wounding five, before he was wounded and arrested. ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency claimed credit. Initial reports said one attacker was shot dead and the second fled in a red car. Two brothers died at the shop. The Interior Ministry said the terrorist fired at the entrance to the church and tried to throw an explosive device. He killed nine people, including an auxiliary policeman who was closing the church gate to stop the gunman getting in, and a young civilian woman. Wadie, a Christian store owner who sells wooden coffins, and his wife were killed at the church; their daughter was wounded. Two women were in serious condition. Investigators said the gunman had carried out several attacks since last year, saying he was "one of the most active terrorist elements and he carried out several terrorist attacks which resulted in the martyrdom of a number of policemen and civilians." The attacker was carrying an explosive device, a machine gun and 150 rounds. Video clips showed him leisurely walking unchallenged on a residential street for nearly 10 minutes. Local resident Salah el-Mougi, 53, jumped on him as he was reloading his AK-47 rifle. Others threw stones at the attacker before police arrived. On December 30, *Aamaq* released a video of the attacker wearing a scarf that shows only his eyes, in which he renewed allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, urged jihadis in Sinai to stand fast and vowed to avenge ISIS members killed.

*Reuters* and *UPI* later quoted medical and security sources saying that two attackers killed nine people, including three police, at the church. The dead included eight Christians and a Muslim. Local media said the dead attacker wore an explosive belt, and that two other bombs had been defused near the church. Some video showed an apparent terrorist lying in a pool of blood.

The Interior Ministry announced that the gunman

was Ibrahim Ismail Mostafa, who was involved in several other attacks. It said he was wounded and arrested. The Health Ministry said he died.

**December 30:** Interior Ministry forces killed three members of Hasm, which it considers a splinter of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood group, in a raid on their hideout in Giza. Authorities arrested ten other Hasm members in other raids. The Ministry claimed that the terrorists planned to attack Coptic celebrations of Christmas on January 7.

## Gaza Strip

**May 6:** Ismail Haniya, 53, was named leader of the political bureau of Hamas, succeeding Khaled Meshal, who was its exiled leader for 21 years. Haniya, father of 13 children, had served as the group's senior member in the Shati refugee camp in Gaza City since 2006. Yehya Sinwar succeeded Haniya in Gaza. Haniya was a closed associate of Sheik Ahmed Yassin, Hamas founder and spiritual leader. Haniya was jailed several times in Israel in the 1980s and 1990s. He was prime minister of a Palestinian unity government after the 2006 elections.

**August 17:** *UPI,* the *Jerusalem Post,* and *AP* reported that in the morning, a Palestinian suicide bomber killed a Hamas security guard and wounded four other Hamas members near the border with Egypt. It was the first suicide bombing against Hamas. Eyad al-Bozom, a spokesman for Gaza's Interior Ministry, said the attacker was not affiliated with ISIS and was "ideologically deviant." Bozom said Hamas stopped the bomber and another man; they refused to surrender before the one wearing a suicide belt detonated it. The second man was seriously injured. Bozom claimed that Hamas was not the intended target for the bomber, who was en route to Egypt. A Gaza-focused jihadi media group, the Ibn Tamiya Media Center, said that the attacker was "from us" and cursed Hamas for stopping him from carrying out an attack in Egypt. It claimed that Hamas shot the bomber in the legs with "treacherous bullets." The Hamas-affiliated Palestinian Information Center reported that Nidal Jumaa al-Jaafari, 28, a member of Hamas's armed wing, died.

**October 27:** *AFP* reported that a car bomb wounded Tawfiq Abu Naim, director general of Hamas's internal security forces, in the Nusseirat refugee camp.

**October 30:** The Israeli military destroyed an attack tunnel under construction that led from Khan Younis, Gaza Strip, into its territory over a mile from the Israeli village of Kissufum, killing at least seven Palestinian militants, including a senior commander of Islamic Jihad and two members of Hamas. Islamic Jihad, the second-largest armed faction in Gaza after Hamas, said five of its members, including the commander of its military wing in central Gaza, were killed.

**November 30:** Palestinians fired a dozen mortar rounds during the afternoon at Israeli army forces involved in construction work along the fence that separates Israel from Gaza, causing no casualties. In retaliation, Israel bombed six targets in Gaza, including four military sites belonging to Hamas and Islamic Jihad and two "terror infrastructure targets." Gaza's Health Ministry said two Palestinians were injured.

Daud Shehab, leader of Islamic Jihad in Gaza, said the "Zionist aggression" was an attempt to distract from the killing of a Palestinian man in the West Bank by settlers earlier in the day. "The Palestinian resistance has the full right to defend and respond to this dangerous escalation. The occupation bears responsibility."

**December 12:** *Al-Jazeera* reported that two Palestinian members of the Islamic Jihad's al-Quds Brigades died when they mishandled their explosives, which accidentally detonated. The Palestinian health ministry had earlier blamed an Israeli air raid. The two Palestinian youths were on a motorcycle near Beit Lahya. Dozens of people were injured. IJ said the men were Hussein Ghazi Nasrallah, 25, and Mustafa al-Shultan, 29, part of IJ's engineering unit.

## Iran

**February 11:** *Tasnim* reported that Iranian intelligence detained eight non–Iranian "Takfiri terrorists" who planned to sabotage celebrations during the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution near Tehran. Minister of Intelligence Mahmoud Alavi said, "During this operation, on February 3 to 9, a secret network of terrorists was identified and eight of its main elements were detained and all of them were non–Iranian." He claimed that the group attempted to buy Kalashnikov rifles and other military equipment under the guidance of handlers in neighboring countries.

**April 26:** *Fars* reported that "terrorists" killed ten Iranian border guards and wounded three others on the frontier with Pakistan.

**June 7:** ISIS claimed credit when terrorists attacked the Parliament building (Islamic Consultative Assembly or Majlis) in Tehran and the Ayatollah Khomeini Shrine at 10 a.m.; members of a third terrorist cell were arrested before they could attack. State-run *IRIB* reported that 17 people—two guards, ten government staffers and five civilians—were killed and 52 injured.

Gunmen in burkas fired Kalashnikovs on the 290-member Majlis, took hostages, and set off a suicide bomb. A gun battle lasted for four hours, during which the four attackers died.

Fifteen miles away, gunmen and suicide bombers attacked Khomeini's mausoleum complex, killing a security guard. A woman was arrested.

Tehran's police chief said five Iranian suspects were detained. By June 9, the Intelligence Ministry said it had detained 41 "elements of the Wahhabi IS group" in Tehran and the western Kurdish provinces involved in operations, communication and logistics for the local ISIS cell. Another eight were arrested on June 10.

The White House released a statement from President Trump that said, "We grieve and pray for the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks in Iran, and for the Iranian people, who are going through such challenging times. We underscore that states that sponsor terrorism risk falling victim to the evil they promote."

The Ministry of Intelligence said that five of the male terrorists had previously fought for ISIS and were "long affiliated with the Wahhabi," the ultraconservative form of Sunni Islam practiced in Saudi Arabia. The Ministry released only their first names. MOIS said the group fought in Mosul, Iraq and Raqqa, Syria then returned to Iran in August under the command of an ISIS leader and escaped when authorities initially broke up their cell.

On June 11, *IRNA* quoted Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi as saying the mastermind of the attacks fled to a neighboring country but "was sent to hell" by Iranian intelligence agents and "fellow intelligence services."

Iran claimed on June 18 that it fired missiles at ISIS targets in Syria in retaliation.

**June 11:** *IRNA* reported that the chief of police of Hormozgan Province, General Azizollah Maleki, announced that police had killed four ISIS-linked gunmen, including two foreigners, in a shoot-out near Roudan and confiscated an ISIS flag, four machine guns, bullets and some explosives.

**June 14:** State television reported that intelligence forces killed two "terrorists" in a shoot-out near Chabahar in Sistan and Baliouchestan Province and arrested five others. One intelligence officer was killed and one was injured.

**July 17:** State television reported that a soldier fired on his comrades, killing three and injuring six at a military base in Abyek. The gunman was injured when he shot himself; he was taken to a nearby hospital. Senior officers had rejected his request for a transfer to his hometown.

**July 20:** *IRNA* reported that Revolutionary Guard forces killed three terrorists and wounded four others in a clash in a border area in the northwest. A Guard member was killed and another wounded in the nighttime gun battle. Authorities detained one terrorist. Other gunmen escaped.

**August 6:** *Mehr* reported that an Iranian soldier shot at his colleagues, killing three and wounding twelve at a military air base in Kahrizak in the south Tehran suburbs. Victims included an officer and two regular soldiers. Troops shot to death the attacker. *AFP* said the toll was four dead and eight injured.

**August 7:** The Intelligence Ministry announced on *vaja.ir* the arrest of 27 ISIS-linked militants who planned to carry out terrorist operations in religious cities inside Iran. Ten were detained at a "control center" abroad, and sent to Iran, while 17 others were arrested in Iran. The ministry said that five had planned to carry out terror attacks and the others were their supporters.

**October 25:** The Revolutionary Guard announced that it killed four "terrorists" in a shoot-out during the night in Chaldoran in Azerbaijan Province near the Turkish border and confiscated arms and communications equipment. The IRGC website indicated that the gunmen killed two local residents after crossing the border.

**October 29:** The judiciary's news agency *Mizan* reported that the Intelligence Ministry had foiled an online plot led by foreigners to spark dissent involving an "illegal gathering" at the tomb of Cyrus the Great, founder of the Persian Empire, on the day that many mark the birth of the Persian king by gathering at his grave in Pasargad.

**November 3:** *Iribnews.ir* and *IRNA* reported that eight Iranian border guard members were killed during clashes with gunmen near Chaldoran in West Azerbaijan Province near the border with Turkey.

# Iraq

**January 2:** An ISIS suicide pickup truck bomber hit a fruit and vegetable market packed with day laborers in east Baghdad's Sadr City, killing at least 36 people and wounding 52 people hours after French President Francois Hollande arrived in the city. Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said the bomber pretended to be a man seeking to hire day laborers. Asaad Hashim, 28, owner of a mobile phone store nearby, sustained shrapnel wounds to his right hand. ISIS said it was targeting Shi'ites.

Three smaller bombings elsewhere in Baghdad killed another seven civilians and wounded at least 30.

**January 5:** *ABC News* and *AP* reported that a parked car bomb exploded in an outdoor fruit and vegetable market in a mostly Shi'ite neighborhood in Baghdad, killing seven civilians and two policemen and injuring 15 other people. ISIS was suspected.

Four others attacks in and around Baghdad killed at least seven people and wounded 20.

*ABC News* and *AP* reported that during the night, a suicide car bomber hit a busy commercial area near a bus station in Baghdad's Bab al-Muadam area, killing eleven and wounding 22.

**January 8:** Bombings in and around Baghdad killed at least 23 people.

A suicide car bomb hit a wholesale market in Sadr City, killing at least seven people and wounding 15. A member of the security forces spotted the bomber and opened fire but was unable to prevent the attack. Hospital officials said 16 died and 47 were wounded. At a hospital where victims of the attack had been taken, a body exploded inside a morgue refrigerator. It appeared to have been a second attacker who was killed by shrapnel from the initial explosion. ISIS said it was targeting Shi'ites.

A suicide bomber killed nine shoppers and wounded 16 others at a fruit and vegetable market in another Shi'ite neighborhood.

Three more bombings in Baghdad killed seven people and wounded 24.

**February:** On February 22 *AP*, the *BBC*, and the *Daily Mail* reported that Ronald Fiddler, alias Abu Zakariya al-Britani, alias Jamal al-Harith, 50, a suicide bomber who attacked a military base in Iraq earlier that week, was a former Guantanamo Bay detainee freed with four other British detainees in March 2004 after the UK requested their release. He was one of 16 men paid ten million pounds (now worth $12.4 million) in compensation in 2010 when the British government settled a lawsuit alleging its intelligence agencies were complicit in the torture of Guantanamo Bay prisoners. The Muslim convert was a web designer who went on a religious retreat in Pakistan in October 2001. He said he tried to return to Europe by land via Iran and Turkey, but was detained at gunpoint near the border with Afghanistan and turned over to the Taliban, which charged him with being a British spy, beat him and threw him in jail. The Northern Alliance freed him two months later, then turned him over to U.S. forces. Upon his eventual return to the UK, he settled in Manchester, but could not find work.

**February 3:** Al-Qaeda's *al-Nafeer* bulletin called President Trump "foolish" and had ignited the "flame of jihad" with the raid in Yemen which makes it "clear for us that the threat was not directed to the Islamic militants only, but to all the Muslims, men, women and even children."

**February 10:** Two ISIS suicide bombings in Mosul, including one at the popular Sayda Jamila restaurant, killed five people and wounded 14. Four died and seven were wounded at the restaurant. The bomb at a checkpoint in the Nour neighborhood killed one soldier and wounded seven people, including three soldiers. The ISIS-affiliated *Aamaq* news agency said ISIS had launched three suicide attacks, one with an explosives-laden car and two with bombers on foot, carrying explosive vests in the neighborhoods of Nour, al-Zuhour and al-Ziraei.

During the night, a parked car bomb exploded in a commercial district of Baghdad, killing six civilians and wounding 18.

*CNN* reported on February 11 that the Pentagon announced that a U.S.-led coalition drone strike near Mosul within the previous 72 hours targeted French citizen Rachid Kassim, an ISIS operative who planned more than half of the 17 foiled terrorist attacks against France in 2016. French intelligence suggested he was in touch with the attacker who killed a French police couple in northwestern France in June 2016 and the two terrorists who murdered a priest in Normandy in July 2016.

**February 11:** Two rockets landed during the night on the parade grounds in the center of Baghdad's fortified Green Zone following anti-government protests, but caused no casualties.

**February 15:** A suicide pickup truck bomber hit a street full of garages and used car dealers in Baghdad's Sadr City, killing 15 and wounding 50.

**February 16:** ISIS set off a bomb in a parked car at a car market in southwestern Baghdad's Bayaa neighborhood during the evening, killing 59 people and injuring 66. ISIS said the bombs went off in the Fifth Police district.

Four other attacks in and around Baghdad killed eight people and wounded around 30.

**February 17:** ISIS attacked a battalion of state-sponsored Popular Mobilization Forces militia southeast of Tikrit, killing eight militia members. ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency said ISIS had struck the 9th Battalion of the Popular Mobilization Forces, "killing its commander and 13 soldiers," blowing up the battalion's headquarters and other nearby positions and destroying two Humvees that had arrived to assist the battalion.

**February 26:** The *Guardian* reported on March 1 that two British students who dropped out of medical degree programs at the University of Medical Sciences and Technology in Sudan to join ISIS in Syria in early 2015 had been killed. Ahmad Sami Kheder, 25, from Carshalton in south London, died on February 26 when a convoy he was travelling with leaving Mosul, Iraq, was hit by gunfire. Hisham Fadlallah, from Nottinghamshire, was killed in indeterminate circumstances. The duo had left Khartoum with a group of nine students, including Kheder's sister, Nada, 22. Kheder appeared in a 2015 ISIS propaganda video. He and several others were believed to have been recruited by Mohammed Fakhri al-Khabass, a Briton of Palestinian origin who was a former student and ran the university's Islamic Cultural Association.

**March 4:** The media reported that ISIS was believed to have used a blister chemical warfare agent in three separate rocket attacks in eastern Mosul. Twelve people, including a two-month-old baby, were treated for suspected exposure in a hospital in Irbil. Symptoms included blisters, burns, respiratory problems,

irritation to the eyes and vomiting. Among the injured was Zeina Fawzi; Fawzi's husband, Wissam Rashid, 46; a mother and her five children between two months and eleven years old in an attack on Mosul's northeastern Giraj al-Shimal district; a three-year-old girl who was in critical condition; Yahya Qassim and his 26-year-old son, who suffered from eye irritation and a burn on his nose.

**March 5:** ISIS sent six suicide car bombers against Iraqi troops in western Mosul. All six were destroyed before reaching the troops.

**March 8:** Two suicide bombers hit a village wedding in Hajaj, near Tikrit, as the wedding party gathered in the evening, killing 26 people, most of them children, and wounding 67. One suicide bomber walked into the wedding party and set off his explosive belt. The second hit first responders. ISIS was suspected. The wedding party was for an anti–ISIS family that had been displaced from Anbar Province.

**March 14:** *Reuters* reported that Iraqi government forces killed Abu Abdul Rahman al-Ansary, the ISIS commander of Mosul's Old City, during operations to clear Bab al-Tob district.

**March 20:** An ISIS suicide car bomber in a commercial area in Baghdad's Amil neighborhood killed 27 people and wounded 45 others. Five other people were missing.

**March 27:** *CBS News* reported on March 30 that an airstrike in al-Qaim killed a leader of ISIS propaganda operations, Ibrahim al-Ansari, who incited vehicle, knife and arson attacks against American and Turkish citizens, and four others.

**March 29:** A suicide oil tanker truck bomb hit a police checkpoint in southern Baghdad during the night, killing 15 people, including three policemen, and wounding 45, including several policemen. ISIS was suspected.

**April 1:** *Reuters* and *Iraqi State Television* reported that an Iraqi air strike hit the ISIS headquarters in al-Qaim, killing Ayad al-Jumaili, alias Abu Yahya, believed to be the deputy of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and the ISIS war minister, and other ISIS commanders, near the border with Syria. *AP* reported that he was an intelligence officer under Saddam Hussein and led ISIS's Amniya security agency in Iraq and Syria.

**April 5:** Five jihadi suicide bombers in police uniforms on foot hit a police patrol and broke into a police officer's house in Tikrit's al-Zihoor neighborhood, killing 22 people, including ten policemen, and injured 31 people in nighttime attacks. Security forces killed three of the bombers while two blew themselves up. ISIS claimed credit.

**April 23:** Three ISIS gunmen attacked a police base in Hamam al-Alil, killing one officer. Two suicide bombers set off their explosives inside the facility.

Terrorists armed with assault rifles and rockets ambushed a convoy of off-duty soldiers during the night near Rutba in Anbar Province, killing ten and wounding 20. ISIS claimed credit.

The *Voice of America* and *Reuters* reported that ten terrorists, including four suicide bombers, tried to attack a Federal Police helicopter base in al-Areej, south of Mosul. Three policemen and three terrorists died. The other attackers fled.

**April 28:** An ISIS suicide car bomb went off during the night at the rear entrance of a police station in Karrada in central Baghdad, killing four people and wounding eight.

**April 29:** The *Washington Post*, *CNN* and *AP* reported that a bomb exploded outside Mosul, killing First Lieutenant Weston C. Lee, 25, of Bluffton, Georgia, an infantry officer from the 82nd Airborne Division. The platoon leader joined the Army in 2015 and deployed to Iraq in December 2016. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal. 17042901

**May 7:** Two ISIS suicide bombers hit the entrance to a base near Kirkuk. Three others were killed in a shoot-out with Kurdish peshmerga forces. Two Iraqi soldiers died; three peshmerga were injured.

**May 19:** *AFP* reported that ISIS conducted several suicide bombings during the night in Baghdad and south Iraq, killing 35 and wounding dozens.

A suicide car bomber attacked a checkpoint outside Basra, killing eleven, including at least five civilians and three soldiers, and wounding 41. Authorities killed a second terrorist who drove his car bomb down a desert road. ISIS claimed both bombs went off. One car bomb was behind a bus waiting to be cleared.

Two suicide car bombers hit a checkpoint in Baghdad's Abu Dsheer area, killing 24, including four police officers, and wounding 20. Authorities killed one attacker, but the other set off his explosives.

**May 22:** Six ISIS terrorists attacked a military training center in Diyala, killing four soldiers and wounding four others, including two officers. The government said five attackers detonated suicide vests inside the center.

**May 26:** Senior Iranian Revolutionary Guard commander General Shaaban Nasiiri, an adviser to Qassem Soleimani, the head of the Quds Force, was killed in an explosion during clashes with ISIS west of Mosul.

**May 30:** A remotely-detonated ISIS car bomb exploded outside a popular ice cream shop in central Baghdad's Karrada neighborhood after midnight, killing 17 people and wounding 32. Among the dead was Australian citizen Zynab al-Harbiya, 12, from Melbourne, who was with her family to visit her sick grandfather. Her mother and an uncle were injured.

Zynab was the Australian-born daughter of Iraqi refugees. 17053001

A rush hour ISIS car bomb exploded near the state-run Public Pension Office in Baghdad's Shawaka area, killing 14 and wounding 37. ISIS said it targeted gatherings of Shi'ites.

Later that day, four bombings in commercial areas and a patrol of Sunni anti–IS tribal fighters in the Baghdad area killed seven people and wounded 19.

A suicide bomber attacked a military patrol in Hit in Anbar Province, killing eight people and wounding ten, including security force members.

**June 9:** *NPR* reported that an ISIS suicide bomber in a market in Musayyib killed 21 people and wounded 30. Hours earlier, an ISIS bomb in Karbala wounded five people. ISIS said both were carried out by suicide attackers wearing explosive vests.

**June 21:** ISIS blew up the 800-year-old Great Mosque of al-Nuri in Mosul, including the tilted minaret nicknamed al-Hadba (the hunchback). Iraqi forces were 50 yards away. ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had declared his caliphate from there in July 2014, declaring himself "commander of the faithful." Nur al-Din Mahmoud Zangi had the mosque built in 1172.

**June 24:** Two French journalists died from a mine explosion earlier in the week near Mosul. State-owned *France Télévisions* reported that its reporter, Veronique Robert, died in a military hospital outside Paris. French video journalist Stephan Villeneuve and their Iraqi Kurdish fixer and interpreter, Bakhtiyar Haddad, died during the week in the same explosion. She was a war correspondent and had covered multiple conflicts in the Middle East, including in Iraq. 17062401

**July 2:** At a camp for displaced people in Anbar Province, a suicide bomber in an abbaya killed 14 people, including a police colonel, and wounded 20 people. The colonel had become suspicious of the person in the long robe and embraced the attacker, reducing the number of casualties from the bomb spray.

**July 3:** Authorities said seven female ISIS suicide bombers attacked soldiers in Mosul. Two female suicide bombers hid amongst fleeing civilians and killed one soldier and wounded several others near the destroyed al-Nuri Mosque in Mosul's Old City neighborhood in a morning attack.

**July 30:** The Iraqi intelligence service said it foiled an ISIS plan to launch suicide attacks in Karbala and Najaf that house shrines as well as the home of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

**August 25:** Military investigators found two mass graves near a former ISIS prison outside Mosul. One near the Badoush Prison had 470 bodies of people killed by ISIS, the second grave had 30 victims. Records of prisoners indicated that most were Shi'ites or other minorities. A massacre at Badoush in June 2014 killed 600 male prisoners.

**August 28:** An ISIS car bomb exploded in the morning at the wholesale Jamila market in Sadr City in Baghdad, killing 12 people and injuring 28. Among the injured was Hussein Kadhim, 35, a porter and father of three who was wounded in his right leg.

**September 2:** At dawn, four suicide bombers—two disguised as workers and one wearing a security forces uniform—set off their explosives inside a power station in Samarra, killing seven workers and wounding eight security forces. ISIS was suspected. Electricity Ministry spokesman Musaab al-Mudaris said the fourth attacker was shot dead.

**September 6:** The German Foreign Ministry announced that Iraqi prosecutors opened an investigation into four German girls, including Linda Wenzel, 16, who were detained in Iraq on suspicion of sympathizing with ISIS. They were found in Iraq as Mosul was liberated from ISIS.

**September 12:** *CNN* reported that Judge Abdul Sattar al-Beeraqdar, the High Judicial Council's spokesman, announced that a criminal court in Baghdad sentenced to death by hanging a Russian ISIS fighter. It was the first time a foreign ISIS fighter had been sentenced to death in accordance with article four of Iraq's anti-terrorism law. He had been detained in Mosul earlier in the year. Prosecutors accused him of membership in the al-Zarqawi brigade of ISIS, and that he confessed to "carrying out several terrorist operations against the security services since 2015."

**September 14:** ISIS gunmen in three black cars and wearing military uniforms attacked a restaurant in Nasiriyah at lunchtime. Patrons included Iranian and Iraqi pilgrims traveling toward Shi'ite shrines in Karbala and Najaf. Moments later, a suicide car bomber hit a police checkpoint near the Fadak restaurant, which sits along Highway 1, the road that connects Baghdad with Dhi Qar province. Some 83 people were killed and 93 injured in the coordinated attacks. The gunmen escaped. 17091401

**September 17:** Several ISIS suicide bombers attacked an international coalition base in Hawija, causing no injuries to foreigners or Iraqis. Coalition spokesman U.S. Army Colonel Ryan Dillon said all attackers were killed. 17091701

**October 1:** A booby-trapped bomb hit the vehicle of coalition soldiers in Salah ad-Din Province, killing a service member and wounding a second. *Military Times* reported on October 3 that the Pentagon identified the deceased soldier as Specialist Alexander Missildine, 20, of Tyler, Texas, a motor transport operator assigned to the 10th Mountain Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team, out of Fort Polk, Louisiana. He joined the Army in 2015 and deployed with his unit in support of Operation Inherent Resolve

in September 2017. He received the Bronze Star. 17100102

**October 11:** A suicide bomber attacked a café in Hit, Anbar Province, killing eleven people and injuring 15. All victims were civilians.

**November 5:** Two suicide bombers hit a Shi'ite mosque on Atlas Street in Kirkuk, killing six people and injuring 16. No group claimed credit.

**November 21:** *AFP* reported that a suicide car bomber hit a busy fruit and vegetable market in Tuz Khurtmatu, killing 21 people.

**November 27:** *AFP* reported that two ISIS suicide bombers hit a market in Baghdad's suburbs, killing eleven civilians and wounding 31, including two security personnel. Police killed three other would-be suicide bombers before the explosions. ISIS claimed it had targeted the Hashed al-Shaabi paramilitary alliance and had killed 35 people.

**December 9:** Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi announced that the government had won the war against ISIS. Hours earlier, a bomb exploded in Tikrit.

**Late December 2017:** *Fox News* and the Iran-based *AhlulBayt News Agency (ANBA)* reported on January 2, 2018, that authorities in Mosul the previous week had arrested Abu Omer, a white-bearded ISIS member who presided over the killings of dozens of gay men and others who ran afoul of the caliphate. He appeared in videos in which homosexuals were thrown off buildings and others beheaded and stoned to death.

# Israel

**January 3:** An Arab resident in Haifa shot two Jews in separate attacks, killing one and wounding the other.

**January 8:** A Palestinian rammed his truck into a group of Israeli soldiers getting off a bus in the Peace Forest park in the Armon Hanatziv neighborhood of Jerusalem, killing four people—three women and a man—all 20 years old, and wounding 17 officer cadets, two critically. Surveillance video showed the truck hitting the soldiers and then rapidly backing up in circles, running over the injured. The attacker was shot dead by soldiers and the civilian tour guide. Israel's police chief Roni Alsheich said the attacker was from an Arab neighborhood in east Jerusalem. Hamas praised the "heroic" attack and called on Palestinians to "escalate the resistance," but did not claim credit. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the assailant showed "all the signs he was a supporter of the Islamic State." Netanyahu condemned "part of the same pattern inspired by Islamic State, by ISIS, that we saw first in France, then in Germany and now in Jerusalem." Arab-language news media said the truck driver was Fadi al-Kanbar, variant Qunbar, 28, from the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Jabel Mukaber. Israeli TV said Kanbar was a married Salafi with four children. Police arrested nine people from the Jabel Mukaber neighborhood, including his parents, wife and two brothers. *AP* reported on July 5 that two weeks earlier, the Defense Ministry and the Jerusalem District Prosecutor's Office filed a precedent-setting lawsuit against Mukaber's estate, seeking compensation from Kanbar's wife and his four young children, heirs to his estate, for burial costs, such as headstones, loss of earnings and pension benefits for the victims. The total could reach $2.3 million. The family's lawyer, Mohammad al-Ayan, said, "This lawsuit is forcing hungry children to pay compensation for an act that was carried out by their father…. The person who carried out this act no longer exists, and the state has already punished the family by sealing up their house and confiscating their car, there is really nothing left for them to take."

**January 10:** *ABC News* reported that soldiers shot dead a Palestinian who ignored warnings to halt and tried to stab soldiers in the West Bank. Soldiers were raiding the Fara Refugee Camp. The troops shot him after he ignored warnings to halt. Palestinians said Mohammed al-Salhi, 32, was shot dead in his home.

**January 11:** The Israeli military said it had uncovered a Hamas plot to spy on soldiers by hacking their mobile phones after posing as women and befriending them on *Facebook*. Dozens of soldiers were then asked to download a chat application that also gave Hamas access to their smartphones. The photos belonged to women whose photos and personal details were stolen from their *Facebook* profiles.

**January 15:** The Israeli military struck a Hamas post in the Gaza Strip in response to an attack on an Israeli military vehicle. No one was injured.

**February 6:** After a rocket launched from the Gaza Strip exploded inside Israel, causing no casualties, the Israeli military fired on two Hamas training sites in Gaza. One rocket exploded in an open field.

**February 9:** A Palestinian was arrested after opening fire at a market in Petah Tikva during the afternoon, wounding four people. *Channel 10* reported that three people were hit by bullets and that one person was stabbed.

**February 16:** Israel warned Hizballah in Lebanon against conducting an attack after Hizballah leader Hassan Nasrallah threatened to target the nuclear reactor in Dimona. Israeli Minister of Intelligence Yisrael Katz said, "If Nasrallah dares to fire at the Israel homefront or at its national infrastructure, all of Lebanon will be hit."

**February 20:** Shin Bet announced that in January, it had arrested Anas Haj Yehiye, 35, an Arab citizen

suspected of activities linked to ISIS operatives and who tried to recruit others to carry out attacks in Israel. Shin Bet said he was asked to conduct a bus attack in Tel Aviv. He also reportedly disseminated training material to ISIS operatives online about making explosive devices, sarin gas and other lethal substances.

The Israeli military said that several shells were fired from the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula and exploded in southern Israel, causing no injuries. Egyptian jihadis were suspected.

**February 27:** Border police at the Qalandia checkpoint near Jerusalem shot and wounded a Palestinian woman, thinking she was planning an attack. They later found she was unarmed. She entered a vehicle-only lane and moved toward officers holding "something" and was shot after ignoring calls to stop.

**March 13:** Troops shot and killed a Palestinian, 26, who stabbed two policemen in Jerusalem's Old City, moderately wounding them. He lived in east Jerusalem.

**March 15:** The military conducted airstrikes against two Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip on March 16 after a projectile was fired from Gaza into southern Israel the previous evening. No injuries were reported. No group claimed credit.

**March 21:** A district court in Haifa sentenced Sabrine Zbeidat, 30, of the Arab city Sakhnin to 50 months in prison for joining ISIS after entering Syria via Turkey with her husband and three young children while on a family vacation in Romania in 2015. They went to Mosul, Iraq, where she worked at a hospital while husband Wissam received military training and fought for ISIS. They were arrested after crossing into Turkey, when sent them to Israel in September 2016.

**March 23:** The cyberattack squad of the police's fraud unit arrested a Jewish Israeli-American dual citizen, 19, suspected of making bomb threats against Jewish community centers in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand and against Delta Air Lines over the past few months. *Haaretz* reported that the man was likely behind a bomb threat at a Jewish institution in New Zealand in 2016. New Zealand police identified the IP address originated in Israel. The hacker was from Ashkelon, and used advanced technologies to mask the origin of his calls and communications to synagogues, community buildings and public venues. During his arrest, he tried to grab an officer's gun. The man appeared in court in Rishon Letzion, represented by attorney Galit Bash, who said her client's "very serious medical condition" prevented him from attending elementary or high school or enlisting in the army. *Channel 10 TV* said he had a brain tumor. His father was detained for eight days.

**March 24:** Gunmen killed Mazen Faqha, 38, in the garage of his home. He was responsible for cells of Hamas's Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades in the West Bank. *AFP* reported on March 26 that Hamas shut the Erez civilian crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel after blaming Mossad for the assassination. Israel arrested him and sentenced him to prison over suicide attacks that killed hundreds of Israelis between 2000 and 2005. He was released in 2011 along with more than 1,000 other Palestinians in exchange for Gilad Shalit, an Israeli soldier Hamas had held for five years.

On May 11 Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh announced the arrest of a man believed responsible for the killing. He observed, "All the evidence we have indicates that the perpetrator committed this crime based on orders from the Israeli occupation." Hamas said the killer used a silenced weapon.

**March 29:** Israeli police shot and killed a Palestinian woman, 49, from east Jerusalem, who tried to stab officers on duty with a pair of scissors near Damascus Gate near Jerusalem's Old City. Police accidentally shot and killed her son in 2016 when officers opened fire on the car in which he was riding.

**April 10:** The military said that terrorists based in the Sinai fired a rocket at southern Israel after the border was closed, causing no injuries.

**April 14:** A Palestinian man stabbed several times Hannah Bladon, a British woman tourist in her early 20s, in a rail car as she traveled on the light rail steps from the entrance to Jerusalem's Old City Christian Quarter on Good Friday; she died at Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Center. Israel's Shin Bet identified the attacker as Jamal Tamimi, 57, from East Jerusalem. Tamimi was arrested at the scene. He had mental health issues and had attempted suicide earlier in 2017 by swallowing a razor blade while hospitalized. He was convicted of abusing his daughter in 2011. An off-duty policeman on the tram with his family pulled the emergency brake and charged at Tamimi. Bladon was studying at Hebrew University as part of a student exchange program with the University of Birmingham. A pregnant woman was injured by the sudden stop of the tram. 17041401

**April 19:** Shin Bet announced the arrest of two Palestinian sisters from Gaza caught smuggling explosives hidden in containers labeled as "medical materials" but that would be used for "terrorist attacks by Hamas." The duo had entry permits to Israel where one of the sisters receives cancer treatment.

**April 23:** A Palestinian, 18, stabbed and lightly wounded four people on a Tel Aviv street near the beach. The attacker was arrested.

**May 7:** A Palestinian woman pulled out a knife, yelled "God is greatest" in Arabic and tried to stab officers on duty in Jerusalem. They shot her to death.

**May 13:** A Jordanian, 57, stabbed an Israeli police officer in the Old City of Jerusalem, moderately wounding him before the officer shot the attacker to death. 17051301

**May 22:** Police killed a Palestinian who ran with a knife and tried to stab officers near Abu Dis, a Palestinian town on the outskirts of Jerusalem, as U.S. President Donald Trump visited Jerusalem's Old City, a few miles away.

**June 8:** Shin Bet arrested seven Arabs planning to kill army officers for Gaza's Hamas rulers to avenge the killing of Mazen Faqha, a senior Hamas figure, in March. Israel had sentenced him to nine life terms for directing suicide bombing. He was freed with more than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners for a single Israeli soldier in 2011.

**June 16:** Three Palestinians armed with an automatic weapon and knives attacked Israeli officers on duty in two attacks at two locations near Jerusalem's Old City during the evening, critically wounding one before they were shot and killed.

A Palestinian stabbed a female officer in her 20s, critically wounding her. Other officers shot dead the attacker.

Palestinians fired an automatic weapon at officers and attacked them with knives before officers shot them to death.

**July 14:** At 7 a.m., three gunmen killed two Israeli police officers at the Lion Gate into the Old City near one of the main entrances to a site holy to Muslims and Jews before security forces chased the assailants inside the courtyard of the al-Aqsa mosque complex, then killed them. Shin Bet said the trio was from the Arab town of Umm al-Fahm in northern Israel, and noted that they shared the same last name, Jabarin, suggesting they may be cousins. The two dead Israeli Border Police officers, members of the Druze community, were identified as Kamil Shnaan, 22, the son of a former Israeli parliamentarian; and Hael Sathawi, 30, who was survived by his wife and three-week-old son. Two of the gunmen posted on an attacker's *Facebook* page a day earlier of them posing for a selfie in front of the Dome of the Rock at the complex with the caption, "Tomorrow our smiles will be sweeter." The terrorists were armed with a knife, a pistol and two homemade machine guns of the type manufactured in clandestine workshops in the West Bank.

**August 2:** A Palestinian, 19, stabbed and critically wounded an Israeli man, 42, at a supermarket south of Tel Aviv. Police said the attack was apparently politically motivated. The suspect was detained by civilians in Yavne before police arrested him.

**August 8:** A rocket fired from the Gaza Strip landed in an open area outside Ashkelon, causing no injuries or damage. No one claimed credit. Salafis were suspected.

**August 10:** *UPI* reported that Shin Bet, Israeli police and the Israeli Defense Forces arrested five Palestinians in the West Bank village of Eizariya en route to Jerusalem to carry out a terrorist attack in Jerusalem. *Israel National News* and *Channel 10* reported that the five armed suspects left behind suicide notes in their homes in the West Bank area of Hebron.

**August 15:** Police arrested radical cleric Raed Salah, head of the northern branch of the Islamic Movement in Israel, on suspicion of inciting violence and involvement in an outlawed organization. Israel outlawed his group in 2015. He completed a nine-month prison sentence in January 2017 for "incitement to violence" and "incitement to racism." He was earlier imprisoned for funneling money to Hamas. He was arrested for remarks delivered in a July 2017 speech at the funeral of three Arab-Israeli gunmen who killed two police officers at a contested Jerusalem holy site. He praised the attackers and called for others to follow their example. On August 24, Israel charged him with "inciting to terror."

**October 8:** Shin Bet arrested two Palestinians from the West Bank suspected of killing Israeli man Reuven Shmerling, who was found dead in an Arab town the previous week, in what it says was a politically-motivated "terror attack."

**November 30:** *AP* reported on December 4 that Shin Bet arrested two residents of southern Israel suspected of stabbing to death Israeli soldier Ron Yitzhak Kokia, 20, in Arad for nationalistic reasons and stealing his weapon on November 30. Israeli media reported the detainees were likely Arab Bedouins from the southern Negev desert.

**December 5:** The *Jerusalem Post* reported that the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem issued a security warning to U.S. residents in the city regarding an impending "day of rage" announced by Palestinians in response to President Donald Trump's phone calls announcing his intentions to move the embassy to Jerusalem. The warning noted, "With widespread calls for demonstrations beginning December 6 in Jerusalem and the West Bank, U.S. government employees and their family members are not permitted until further notice to conduct personal travel in Jerusalem's Old City and in the West Bank, to include Bethlehem and Jericho."

**December 7:** *Reuters* reported that two rockets fired at Israel from the Gaza Strip fell short inside the Palestinian enclave. Sirens went off in Hof Ashkelon and Sha'ar HaNegev regional councils. The jihadist Salafi group in Gaza called the al-Tawheed Brigades claimed credit.

**December 10:** Police announced that a security guard was seriously wounded in a stabbing at Jerusalem's central bus station.

**December 29:** The Iron Dome missile defense sys-

tem knocked down two rockets fired from Gaza. A third rocket exploded in a populated area, damaging a building. Tanks and aircraft fired on Hamas posts. No casualties were reported.

# Jordan

**January 6:** On January 16 ISIS's *Aamaq* news agency said an ISIS "security detachment" shot to death Jordanian 1st Sergeant Bassam Hourani in Maan Province on January 6. Police said he was collecting wood with his family near a road. A senior Jordanian security official said it was a criminal act, not terrorism. 17010601

**February 23:** *Petra* announced that the state security court sentenced eight men to 15-year prison terms for planning IS attacks on Amman's Makra military airport, military personnel, foreign aircraft and foreign embassies in the kingdom. One terrorist planned to use an explosives belt at the airport; three others planned to attack foreign aircraft. Four others received money from IS, but were arrested before they could carry out an attack on a bus transporting Jordanian soldiers.

**March 4:** The government hanged at dawn at Swaqa Prison 15 people, including ten with ties to Islamic extremism who carried out five shootings and a bombing since 2003. They had been involved in six different incidents, including a 2003 bombing attack that killed 19 at Jordan's embassy in Iraq, a 2006 shooting attack on tourists at a Roman theater in Amman that killed a 30-year-old Briton, a December 2015 shooting that killed two police officers, a March 2016 shoot-out at an IS hideout in which an officer was killed, a June 2016 attack by a lone gunman on an office of Jordan's intelligence agency in the Baqaa refugee camp that killed five, and the September 2016 shooting of local writer Nahed Hattar on the steps of an Amman courthouse. Hattar's killer was a former mosque prayer leader. The five others had committed other crimes, including incest and rape, according to *Petra*.

**March 15:** Five Syrians with alleged ISIS ties pleaded not guilty in Jordan's State Security Court to charges they participated in a cross-border car bombing near the Rukban camp that killed seven Jordanian border guards in June 2016. They faced the death penalty. Defense attorney Basheer Oqily said they were charged with involvement in the attack, and with possessing explosives and weapons.

**June 3:** The Jordanian military's Hala Akhbar website reported that three gunmen who rode motor bikes from Rukban border camp in Syria into Jordan to attack Jordanian border positions were killed in a clash with troops. A Jordanian soldier was injured in the hand. 17060301

**June 11:** Border guards killed five suspected infiltrators approaching the kingdom's border from Syria in a pickup truck and two motorcycles near the spot where Jordan, Syria and Iraq meet. 17061101

**July 23:** *AP, UPI,* and *Hala Akhbar* reported that an evening clash killed two Jordanian men and wounded an Israeli guard, who was in "unstable" condition, in a residential building in the compound of the Israeli embassy in Amman's Rabiyeh neighborhood. Jordanians had entered the apartment building for carpentry work to replace furniture. *UPI* and *AP* reported that during a quarrel between a Jordanian, 17, and an Israeli security guard, the Jordanian stabbed the Israeli in the chest with a screwdriver. The guard opened fire, killing the teen. The other Jordanian, the owner of the building and a physician, died later of his injuries. One of the slain Jordanians was Mohamed Jawawdeh. The Israeli guard returned to Israel the next day.

# Kuwait

**August 11:** The Interior Ministry announced the arrest of a dozen men linked to a terrorist group associated with Hizballah and Iran's Revolutionary Guard. They were among 26 who were sentenced by Kuwait's Supreme Court to prison in June but they refused to turn themselves in. They were accused of weapons possession and planning "hostile actions" inside Kuwait. One Iranian man was tried in absentia; the rest were Kuwaitis. Four men remained at large.

# Lebanon

**March 30:** Security officials said an explosion near Arsal on the border with Syria killed two Syrians and wounded three. The explosion burned a small truck that the five people were using. Officials said it was not determined whether the bomb was in the pickup truck or on the road. 17033001

**April 22:** The army killed Hassan al-Malees, a Syrian jihadi wanted for his role in attacking Lebanese army posts in cross border operations, including the kidnapping of Lebanese soldiers in 2014 in Arsal, during a raid to arrest infiltrators from Syria. The army arrested ten gunmen.

**June 30:** Five suicide bombings hit Arsal, a border town, killing a Syrian girl and wounding seven Lebanese soldiers during morning raids of several refugee settlements. A suicide bomber set off his explosives among a family of Syrian refugees during the raid in al-Nour settlement in Arsal, killing the girl. Three soldiers were injured when a suicide bomber detonated his suicide belt in al-Nour. Another three male suicide bombers set off their bombs in the same camp. Also in al-Nour, other terrorists detonated an explosive device while a military expert defused four other devices. In al-Qariya settlement, a fifth suicide bomber blew himself up, causing no other injuries.

Four soldiers were wounded when a hand grenade was thrown at them. *Al-Jadeed TV* reported that about 400 people were detained during and after the raids. No group claimed credit. 17063001

**August 20:** A roadside bomb hit an armored vehicle, killing three Lebanese Armed Forces soldiers in a mountainous region bordering Syria during operations against ISIS. 17082001

**August 27:** Abbas Ibrahim, chief of Lebanese General Security said authorities had discovered six bodies believed to be of soldiers kidnapped by ISIS in 2014 and since buried near the Syrian border. Two more bodies were believed to be buried at the site and the search for a ninth soldier was under way.

**November 15:** The armed forces in Arsal arrested fugitive radical Islamist cleric Mustafa al-Hujairi, alias Abu Taqiyya, who was implicated in the abduction of soldiers by jihadis linked to al-Qaeda and ISIS in 2014. Al-Hujairi was believed involved in the negotiations with the government for the release of several kidnapped soldiers; some were released but nine were killed. The news media claimed that al-Hujairi's son confessed that his father was linked to the attack on Arsal.

# Libya

**January 21:** A car bomb went off in the vicinity of the Italian and Egyptian embassies in Tripoli in the early evening, killing the two people in the car. The Italian Foreign Ministry said its staff was safe.

**February 22:** Spokesman Walid Urfi announced that Colonel Salah al-Hewidi, who refused to leave his post as Benghazi's security chief when he was fired, was wounded by a car bomb. In January, a nominee to replace him was wounded in a car bombing in Benghazi. The eastern-based government, headed by Abdullah al-Thinni, had fired al-Hewidi.

**May 3:** A rocket hit a residential area in the al-Sirti district in southeastern Benghazi, killing three people.

**July 4:** *UPI* reported that a rocket attack on a Tripoli beach off a coastal road in front of Mitiga Airport killed five members of a family, including two young girls and two women, and injured 25 other people, seven seriously. Authorities suggested that it was a clash between two families—the Sumbuls and the Shadis.

**August 13:** Armed Tripoli Revolutionaries' Brigade militiamen kidnapped former prime minister Ali Zidan as he was meeting with security officials during the evening at a hotel in Tripoli. It was the second time he was kidnapped. Zidan was abducted in October 2013 by a militia, but was released within days. He fled Libya before competing militias seized Tripoli in 2014, but later returned. The former diplomat and human rights lawyer joined the opposition in exile in the 1990s. He was named prime minister by Libya's first elected parliament, the General National Congress, in 2012.

**August 23:** Brigadier General Ahmed al-Mosmari, spokesman of Libya's self-proclaimed national army in the east, said that ISIS terrorists beheaded eleven people, including nine soldiers and two civilians, in an attack on a checkpoint in the central district of al-Jufra.

**August 31:** IS was suspected when a suicide car bomber drove into a checkpoint at Nofaliya, east of Sirte, killing two policemen and wounding two soldiers from the Libyan National Army.

**September 28:** Chief Prosecutor al-Sadiq al-Sour announced the arrest of a man suspected of taking part in IS's beheading of 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians in Libya in 2015 behind a seaside hotel in Sirte. Also detained were militants who were involved in the September 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi.

**October 4:** Libya's IS affiliate claimed credit for a bomb that exploded at a court house complex in Misrata, killing three people and wounding 35, mostly civilians and security personnel working at the complex.

**October 25:** Islamic State gunmen attacked a security checkpoint, killing two people and injuring three soldiers. The gunmen stole weapons and ammunition and torched several vehicles. The terrorists desecrated the bodies.

# Morocco

**March 8:** A Moroccan appeals court upheld the conviction of French citizen Thomas Gallay, 37, who had been sentenced to six years for giving 70 euros ($74) to two Moroccan members of a terrorist cell. The court reduced his sentence to four years. He claimed that he signed a confession in Arabic that he could neither read nor understand. His attorney announced that his client was starting a hunger strike. Gallay, an IT engineer, had moved to Morocco to work remotely for his French employer when he was arrested in February 2016.

**March 12:** Authorities in Casablanca arrested Lebanese businessman Kassim Tajeddine, who was wanted in the U.S. for providing millions of dollars to Hizballah, en route from Guinea to Beirut. He was held in prison in Sale and represented by attorney Chibli Mallat. The U.S. Treasury Department listed him as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist in May 2009 for moving money from Tajco, a multi-national business venture, to Hizballah.

**September 6:** Spanish and Moroccan security forces arrested six members of an ISIS-linked cell who were

training and planning knife attacks in Morocco and Spain. Five people were held in Nador, Morocco and one in Melilla, a Spanish enclave. Five individuals were Moroccan; the other was a Spaniard of Moroccan origin. Their alleged leader was a 39-year-old living in Melilla who was arrested while visiting Morocco. He allegedly recruited youngsters at a reeducation center where he worked and used ISIS propaganda to train them.

**October 23:** The Interior Ministry announced the arrest in Rabat and two other cities of six people suspected of being involved in the "terrorist plans" of an extremist cell allegedly linked to ISIS. The ministry said the detainees were allegedly linked to eleven members of an extremist cell that was dismantled in Fez and Khouribga, the alleged mastermind's hometown, earlier in October. Authorities seized chemicals used to make explosives, firearms, various types of ammunition, vests that could hold suicide bombs, combat batons, tear gas canisters, telecommunications devices and knives.

**October 25:** The Interior Ministry announced the arrest of four people suspected of planning attacks in Fez, a tourist destination and spiritual center. Authorities found a military uniform, knives and documents calling for jihad.

# Oman

**January 15:** A Cologne, Germany-bound Eurowings flight No. EW117 Airbus A330 passenger flight from Salalah, Oman landed in Kuwait International Airport in Kuwait City at 8 a.m. after receiving a bomb threat. No explosives were found on board. The flight was a charter for tour company FTI, and carried 287 and ten crew. It was being flown by SunExpress.

# Red Sea

**January 30:** *UPI* and the *Saudi Press Agency* reported that Houthi rebels west of Hudaydah, variant Hodeida, Yemen, conducted a suicide attack on a frigate on patrol in the Red Sea, killing two Saudi crew members and injuring three others. A boat hit the rear of the frigate, causing an explosion. The Houthi-controlled *l-Masira* news agency countered that the warship was hit by a guided missile the Houthis launched from the base island of Zuqar, between Yemen and Eritrea. 17013001

# Saudi Arabia

**January 7:** Police shot to death two suspected ISIS members in Riyadh. The gunmen fired on police who had surrounded them in the northern Yasmeen neighborhood, slightly injuring one officer. Authorities found suicide vests, rifles and ammunition. The *Saudi Press Agency* reported that one of the dead was Taie bin Salem bin Yaslam al-Saya'ari, a foreign scholarship student who abandoned his studies to join ISIS in Syria and who planned a suicide bombing on July 4, 2016, outside of the Medina mosque where the Prophet Muhammad is buried. Al-Saya'ari was wearing a suicide bomb vest and holding a machine gun. Al-Saya'ari was a scholarship student in New Zealand. After the stint in Syria as an ISIS fighter, he traveled to Turkey, Sudan and Yemen before returning to Saudi Arabia.

The other dead terrorist was Talal bin Samran al-Sa'aeidi, who earlier was arrested for fighting abroad and underwent counseling when he returned to the kingdom.

**January 14:** The Interior Ministry said a soldier was killed in the Najran region by cross-border fire from Yemen. 17011401

**January 21:** The Interior Ministry said two men suspected of plotting terrorist attacks set off their explosive belts in Jiddah after a gun battle with security forces attempting to arrest them. No one else was killed or injured. Security forces arrested a Saudi man and his Pakistani wife in a separate counterterrorist raid. Pakistan's *Dawn* and *AFP* reported on January 24 that Saudi security forces arrested 13 Pakistanis and three Saudis suspected of having links to the terrorists. The Saudi Interior Ministry said the bombers were Saudis Marzouk Anzi and Khaled al-Sourwani, both of whom had participated in previous terrorist attacks in the kingdom. Sourwani had links with IS. The official *Saudi Press Agency* said that authorities confiscated seized arms and materials for making explosives from the building.

**February 16:** Interior Ministry spokesman Major General Mansour al-Turki said authorities in Mecca, Medina and two other cities had arrested 18 suspects, including bomb makers, among them Yemenis, belonging to IS. Suspects' roles included logistical operations and recruitment, providing shelter, financial support, and making explosives and suicide vests.

**March 7:** A Saudi policeman was shot dead in his car in the predominantly Shi'ite Muslim region of Qatif.

Police in Riyadh shot dead an armed man suspected of belonging to the Islamic State and arrested another.

**March 14:** The *Saudi Press Agency* reported that gunmen killed a police officer on patrol in Qatif, then fled.

Earlier in the week, a Saudi teenager wanted by police was shot dead during a security raid on a neighborhood in al-Awamiya.

**March 29:** Interior Minister Major General Mansour al-Turki said police killed two wanted terrorists, Mohammed al-Nimr and Meqdad al-Nimr, in shootout in an area heavily populated by minority Shi'ites. Al-Awamiya village's most prominent Shi'ite cleric and anti-government critic Nimr al-Nimr was executed in January 2016 on terror charges. It was

not clear if they were related. Four others were arrested in the raid on a farm in al-Awamiya. Police seized weapons, ammunition and material to make explosives with. No security personnel were wounded.

**April 25:** The Interior Ministry said the Saudi Royal Navy stopped an unmanned explosives-packed speed boat before it could hit an Aramco oil distribution center in Jizan near Yemen. The ministry said the boat had entered Saudi waters from a small Yemeni island. 17042501

**April 30:** Interior Ministry spokesman Major General Mansour al-Turki announced the arrests of 46 people, including 32 Saudis and 14 others from Egypt, Pakistan, Yemen, Afghanistan, Sudan and Jordan, suspected of belonging to a terrorist cell that attacked the Prophet Muhammad's mosque in Medina in July 2016 that killed four security officers and a suicide bombing near the U.S. consulate in Jiddah. The ministry earlier identified the Medina bomber as a Saudi national and the Jiddah bomber as a Pakistani resident.

**May 15:** A rocket-propelled grenade hit a security patrol during the evening in al-Awamiya, killing an officer with the Special Security Forces unit tasked with counterterrorism and wounding five others.

**June 1:** State-linked Saudi news websites, including *al-Marsad*, reported that a car bomb exploded in Qatif in a district with shops and apartment buildings. Two people inside the car may have been killed. The Interior Ministry said security forces fired at the car, setting it on fire and killing the two terrorists. Major General Mansour al-Turki said security forces found a stolen car during the evening and found weapons and the remains of munition the caused the explosion.

**June 23:** *USA Today* reported Saudi security forces foiled a plot to conduct two attacks on the 70-acre Great Mosque of Mecca compound and a third in Jeddah. The Saudi-owned *pan–Arab TV news* said a suicide bomber hiding in a house in the Ajyad al-Masafi neighborhood of Mecca fired on security forces and later blew himself up. *Al-Arabiya* reported that five others were arrested, including one woman. Six people were injured along with five members of the security forces.

**July 6:** Interior Ministry spokesman Major General Mansour al-Turki said gunmen attacked a patrol during the morning in Qatif Governorate's al-Awamiya neighborhood, killing a security corporal and injuring six security men.

**July 13:** Attackers killed border guard soldier Mohammed Hazai and wounded another in Qatif Province during the night.

**July 22:** Yemeni Houthi rebels claimed to have fired a Burkan-2 ballistic missile at a Saudi oil refinery in Yanbu, Saudi Arabia. The group later released a video in which it noted that "this is a new phase in the conflict with Saudi Arabia" and that more refineries will be hit unless "the brutal aggression in Yemen stops." 17072201

**July 27:** The *Long War Journal* and *AFP* reported that Saudi forces shot down a Houthi ballistic missile 43 miles south of Mecca. 17072701

**July 30:** Interior Ministry spokesman Major General Mansour al-Turki said that a bombing of a security patrol in the morning killed a security officer and wounded six others in the al-Mosawara district in the heavily Shi'ite Qatif Governorate in the eastern province.

**August 1:** The government-linked Saudi news website *Ajel* reported that during the night, drive-by gunmen fired on the Riyadh headquarters of the Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice religious police. No injuries were reported.

*Ajel* and other Saudi media outlets reported the previous week that unknown assailants assassinated Fahd al-Khudeir al-Afaleq, chief of the religious police in Qassim Province. He died in his home from two bullets to the chest. The attackers then torched his home.

**September 12:** The *Saudi Press Agency* reported that the government had broken up an ISIS plot to have suicide bombers attack two headquarters of the Defense Ministry in Riyadh. Security forces arrested two Yemeni male would-be bombers and two Saudis. Authorities seized suicide bomb belts, homemade grenades, firearms, and other weapons at a home used by the plotters in Riyadh.

**September 24:** The *Saudi Press Agency* reported the shootdown of a ballistic missile fired by Shi'ite Houthi rebels in Yemen during the Kingdom's National Day celebrations. The missile targeted Khamis Mushait, home to King Khalid Air Base. Saudi forces later attacked the missile's launch site inside of Yemen. 17092402

**October 7:** The *Saudi Press Agency* said that at 3:25 a.m., Saudi citizen Mansour bin Hassan bin Ali bin al-Fahid al-Amri, 28, got out of a vehicle and fired at the western gate of the al-Salam Palace in Jiddah, killing two members of the Saudi Royal Guard and wounding three others. The gunman was shot dead at the scene. Authorities said he was carrying Kalashnikov rifles and three Molotov cocktails.

**November 4:** In the evening, Saudi air defense forces intercepted a ballistic missile fired by Houthi rebels from Yemen toward King Khalid International Airport. Several Houthi-owned media outlets, including *al-Masira* and *SABA*, reported the rebels had launched the missile. Fragments of the missile landed in an uninhabited area north of Riyadh.

**December 19:** *CNN* reported that Yemeni Houthi rebel spokesperson Mohammed AbdulSalam said on *Twitter* that Houthis had fired a Burkan 2H ballistic missile at the Yamama Palace hotel in Riyadh. Saudi state television station *al-Ekhbariya* reported that the Saudi-led coalition said it had intercepted the ballistic missile south of Riyadh. Houthi-controlled *al-Masirah TV* claimed that a large meeting at the hotel was the target.

# Syria

**January 1:** *SANA* reported that two suicide bombers walking in the cornice in Tartus set off their explosives after midnight when approached by two security officers who thought they were acting suspiciously, killing the two patrolmen.

**January 7:** The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 43 people, including six opposition figures, were killed when a car bomb exploded in the central market in Azaz in Aleppo Province near the Turkish border. The bomb also damaged a government building and local courthouse. Rami Abdurrahman, the head of the Syrian Observatory, said the explosion was caused by a rigged water or fuel tanker. The *Azaz Media Center* said 50 died.

**January 8:** A car bomb went off at a security checkpoint outside Sasa, a rural village near Damascus, killing five people and injuring 15, including women and children. Opposition activists said the Fatah al-Sham Front was responsible.

**January 10:** *AP* reported on January 14 that during the afternoon of January 10, gunmen kidnapped Shiraaz Mohamed, a South African freelance photographer who was traveling with the South African Gift of the Givers aid workers near the group's medical facility near the border with Turkey. The abductors put their guns to the heads of two aid workers with Mohamed, then drove the trio for an hour. The gunmen freed two, but said they would question Mohamed about a "misunderstanding" and would free him in two days. A GoG spokesman said, "They asked if Shiraaz is a foreigner. Our people replied yes. They asked if he has a passport. They said yes. They asked if he's Muslim. They said yes." As of January 18, he remained captive. 17011002

**January 18:** The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights Syrian activists said ISIS had shot eight and beheaded four hostages in Palmyra. Those beheaded were teachers and government employees. The *Palmyra Monitor* network said four opposition fighters and four pro-government troops were first shot, then beheaded. Some murders were conducted in the 2nd century Roman amphitheater, while others occurred in the courtyard of the Palmyra museum or in a former Russian base in Palmyra. *AP* added on January 20 that ISIS had partially destroyed a Roman amphitheater that they were using for their executions in Palmyra. They demolished the Tetrapylon, a towering structure marking the intersection of Palmyra's two main boulevards.

**January 20:** ISIS killed five Turkish soldiers and wounded nine others in a bombing in al-Bab. 17012001

**January 21:** A car bomb was suspected when a large explosion went off at a market in the Rukban camp for displaced Syrians along the Syrian-Jordanian border, killing two men, a woman and a child and injuring 14 people. A Jordanian military official said the explosion involved a small truck and said no Jordanians were injured.

**February 4:** *CNN* reported on February 8 that Department of Defense spokesman Eric Pahon said an airstrike on February 4 killed al-Qaeda leader Abu Hani al-Masri near Idlib, Syria. The Egyptian oversaw the creation and operation of many al-Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan in the 1980s and 1990s. He was a founder of Egyptian Islamic Jihad, which attempted to blow up the U.S. embassy in Albania in 1998.

**February 14:** The *Times of India* reported on February 26 that Indian doctor K Ramamurthy was rescued from ISIS kidnappers. 17021401

**February 16:** *AP* reported on February 21 that the Russian military claimed that a roadside bomb targeting a Syrian military convoy near the Tiyas air base on February 16 had killed four Russian soldiers. The Russian newspaper *Kommersant* said on March 6 that Russian Major General Pyotr Milyukhin lost both legs and an eye when terrorists remotely detonated a land mine under his vehicle as part of a Syrian military convoy to the central city of Homs from the Tiyas air base. 17021601

**February 24:** An ISIS suicide pickup truck bomb exploded in Sousian village near al-Bab, killing 60 people, including four fighters manning a checkpoint, and wounding 100 in an attack on a security building for the Free Syrian Army. Civilians were lining up to obtain permits to return home. A separate suicide bombing in Tadif near al-Bab killed eight people, including two Turkish soldiers on road patrol, and wounded three other Turkish soldiers. 17022401

**February 25:** *SANA* reported that the Levant Liberation Committee, an al-Qaeda-linked rebel coalition, claimed credit when six suicide bombers hit two security offices 1.2 miles apart in Homs's al-Ghouta and al-Mahata neighborhoods, killing 32 people, including Major General Hassan Daeboul, who headed the Military Intelligence branch, and seriously wounded Brigadier Ibrahim Darwish, head of the State Security Branch. LLC said bombs went off at checkpoints outside the buildings when first respon-

ders were arriving, leading to more casualties. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said the death toll was 42 security officers.

**February 26:** *CNN* reported that a U.S. missile strike on a vehicle killed two people, including Egyptian national Abdullah Muhammad Rajab Abd al-Rahman, alias Abu al-Khayr al-Masri, al-Qaeda's deputy to leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, near al-Mastoumeh village in Idlib. The U.S. Treasury designated al-Rahman a terrorism supporter in 2005, saying he was responsible for coordinating al-Qaeda's work with other terrorist organizations. In 2016 the UN Security Council put him, along with 81 others, on a sanctions list.

**March 2:** The Russian Defense Ministry said on March 6 that Private Artyom Gorbunov was killed in action against ISIS near Palmyra. 17030202

**March 11:** The *New York Times*, *CNN* and *Reuters* reported that terrorists set off two bombs 15 minutes apart at the Bab al-Saqhir Cemetery in Damascus, killing 74, including 40 Iraqi pilgrims, and wounding 120 more people, most of them Iraqis. The Levant Liberation Committee, which has al-Qaeda ties, claimed credit, saying its two suicide bombers—Abu Aisha and Abu Omar—had targeted pro–Iranian and pro-government militiamen. The group said, "Iran and its militias have, from the start of the revolution, supported the tyrannical and criminal regime and have been killing and displacing our people. This is a message to Iran and its militias that the right will not go wasted." Lebanese Hizballah condemned the attack. 17031102

**March 15:** A suicide bomber hit outside the Justice Palace, Damascus's largest courthouse, killing 39 people, including 16 lawyers. No judges died. Another bomb hit a restaurant elsewhere in Damascus. On March 30, the ISIS-linked online *al-Nabaa* weekly said two Syrian ISIS members were responsible. The publication said the man who attacked the Justice Palace shot the guards first, then walked into the building and blew himself up. Two hours later, another ISIS bomber blew himself up in a restaurant frequented by Christians.

**March 29:** A bomb went off mid-day in a 14-passenger taxi van carrying university students in the al-Zahra district of Homs, killing five people and wounding four. Police said a man placed a plastic bag under a seat and escaped.

**April 4:** *Reuters* reported that ISIS spokesman Abi al-Hassan al-Muhajer posted on *Telegram*: "America you have drowned and there is no savior, and you have become prey for the soldiers of the caliphate in every part of the earth, you are bankrupt and the signs of your demise are evident to every eye…. There is no more evidence than the fact that you are being run by an idiot who does not know what Syria or Iraq or Islam is…. Die of spite America, die of spite, a nation where both young and old are racing to die in the name of God will not be defeated."

**April 5:** *CNN* quoted Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reports that ISIS killed 33 people aged between 18 and 25 execution-style in the al-Mayadin desert near Deir Ezzor in eastern Syria during the morning.

**April 7:** *CNN* reported that ISIS said one of its key propagandists, Sheikh Abu Sulayman ash Shami, alias Ahmad Abousamra, 35, a Syrian-American computer scientist, was killed in an airstrike near Tabqa, southwest of Raqqa, in the second week of January 2017. He was an editor of its online propaganda magazine *Rumiyah* and grew up in Stoughton, Massachusetts. He was put on the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorists List in 2013; the Bureau offered a $50,000 reward due to his connections to a Massachusetts terrorism investigation regarding on his alleged close associate Tarek Mehanna, who was arrested in 2009 and convicted of terrorism-related charges in a Boston court in late 2011.

Abousamra's indictment indicated that he traveled to Pakistan in 2002 to get terrorist training, then entered Afghanistan to kill American soldiers. He failed and returned to the United States. In 2003 Abousamra and Mehanna discussed killing a U.S. executive branch official, according to an FBI informant. The trio then discussed attacking a U.S. mall, but could not obtain automatic weapons. Court documents said that in 2004 Abousamra and Mehanna went to a Yemeni terrorist training camp. Abousamra then went to Fallujah, Iraq to fight U.S. troops. After a fortnight, he moved on to Jordan and Syria, then returned to Boston in August 2004. He and Mehanna tried to distribute propaganda for al-Qaeda in Iraq. The FBI questioned them in Boston in late 2006 about their overseas travel. Abousamra then permanently left for Syria. ISIS said he initially joined Jabhat al-Nusra. He was based in Aleppo. He was spotted by Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Furqan, head of ISIS's media operations, who transferred him into the group's propaganda department, eventually making him head of the online *Dabiq* magazine, later renamed *Rumiyah*. He wrote under the pen name Abu Maysarah ash-Shami. *CNN* reported that he participated in a failed plot to kill the American Muslim scholar Hamza Yusuf on a recent visit the scholar made to Turkey. Al-Furqan, true name Wael Salman, died in a coalition airstrike in Raqqa on September 7, 2016.

**April 11:** Russia's Defense Ministry announced that two Russian officers were killed and one gravely wounded in a mortar attack. 17041101

**April 15:** A Syrian opposition rescue service said 140 people, including 80 children, government supporters, and opposition fighters, were killed in an explosion near evacuation buses in the al-Rashideen area outside Aleppo. Among the dead were 109 people from Foua and Kfarya.

**April 16:** ISIS shelled Deir el-Zour, wounding two members of a Russian media delegation. One was hit in the arm, the other in the leg and stomach. 17041601

**April 30:** *Al-Eba News*, the media outlet of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), al-Qaeda's joint venture in Syria, the *Long War Journal* and *Telegram* reported that Salahadin al-Uzbeki, Uzbek leader of the al-Qaeda-affiliated Katibat Imam al-Bukhari (KIB), was assassinated in Idlib Province. Some jihadis on social media blamed an "undercover member of ISIS." *Al-Eba News* reported that the gunman who killed Salahadin and three other jihadis was arrested in Ariha, Idlib. He was an Afghan jihadi veteran who was sent to Syria by the Taliban and Sirajuddin Haqqani. 17043001

**May 2:** At 3 a.m., ISIS attacked the village of Rajm Sleibi, killing 38 people and injuring 15, many of them displaced Iraqi civilians. Some suicide bombers blew themselves up at a Kurdish checkpoint while others attacked sleeping civilians in a nearby temporary camp.

**May 8:** ISIS released a video showing the beheading of Russian Captain Yevgeny Petrenko, 36, a Federal Security Service intelligence officer it accused of infiltrating Islamist groups in Kazakhstan and the North Caucasus region of Russia before he was caught in 2016 by ISIS in Syria. He said, apparently under duress, that he had been abandoned by the Russian government and called on it to end its military campaign in Syria. "I was supposed to infiltrate the special services of the caliphate and the leadership of the caliphate…. One of my orders was to gain access to Omar al-Shishani or to his circle. But during this I was discovered and arrested by the security services of the caliphate."

The video named Sergey Ashimov and Jambulat Mamayev, whom the group arrested in 2015, as FSB agents. The two men were shot execution style by a child in a 2015 ISIS propaganda video. The video also named several others who had allegedly been spying for the Russian FSB.

Petrenko's capture was announced in a 2016 video entitled "Message From a Russian Intelligence Officer Captured by The Islamic State: To the President of Russia and Its People." 17050801

**May 21:** A suicide attacker in Tal Touqan in rebel-controlled Idlib Province killed five Ahrar al-Sham members. *Baladi News Network* said 15 were killed in an attack that targeted a group meeting.

**May 28:** *CNN* reported on June 15 that Russia's Defense Ministry was investigating reports that ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was killed in a Russian airstrike on May 28 in Raqqa on a command post where ISIS leaders, 30 mid-level field commanders, and 300 fighters were meeting. The *Cipher Brief* added that the Russians claimed the dead included the emir of Raqqa Abu al-Haji al-Masri, Ibrahim al-Naef al-Hajj, and ISIS security chief Suleiman al-Sawah.

**May 31:** News services reported that an airstrike killed Baraa Kadek, founder of ISIS's *Aamaq* news service, and his young daughter in Mayadeen in Deir el-Zour Province. His brother, Hozaifa, posted on *Facebook* that Baraa died in his home; the opposition *Halab News Network* said he died in his car. He was from Aleppo Province. He joined ISIS in 2013.

**June 16:** On June 23 the *Long War Journal* reported that U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) announced that Fawaz Muhammad Jubayr al-Rawi, a facilitator who handled millions of dollars for ISIS, was killed in a June 16 airstrike in Abu Kamal in Deir Ezzor Province, Syria.

**July 2:** A suicide car bomber killed eight people and wounded a dozen others near Tahreer Square near Bab Touma in central Damascus. Authorities intercepted two other car bombs. Lebanon's *al-Manar TV*, and Diary of a Mortar, a Syrian activist group in the capital, said 19 people were killed. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said 18 people were killed, including seven members of the Syrian security forces, three attackers, and two civilians.

**July 6:** *Al-Ikhbariya TV* reported that a suicide bomber hit the entrance of a bus station in Hama, killing three people, including two women, and wounding eleven, two critically, at midday.

**July 16:** Two shells were fired at the Russian Embassy in Damascus. One hit the compound, causing damage. The second fell nearby. 17071601

A bomb exploded near a hospital in Idlib, wounding five people, including two children.

**July 22:** Ahmed Faleeti, former deputy mayor of Arsal, Lebanon, was killed when a missile hit his vehicle while he was on a mediation mission with al-Qaeda-linked terrorists in Syria. He lost a leg before dying in a Lebanese hospital. 1707201

**July 30:** *Russia Today* reported that one of its correspondents, Khaled al-Khatib, 25, died while covering battles between the Syrian Army and ISIS in the country's central desert. It said he was killed by an ISIS bullet. An accompanying photographer was wounded. Al-Khatib was a student at the University of Damascus. 17073001

**August 2:** Two mortar shells hit the Russian Embassy grounds in Damascus, causing no injuries. Another two exploded outside its fence.

**August 19:** A car bomb killed two people at a checkpoint in Latakia.

**September 8:** *AFP* reported that Russia's Defense Ministry claimed its airstrike in Deir Ezzor city killed 40 ISIS terrorists, including four top ISIS field commanders, among them Abu Mohammed al-Shimali—the emir of Deir Ezzor—and Gulmurod Khalimov, a native of Tajikistan called the "Minister of War." Khalimov led the Tajik interior ministry's special forces unit before joining ISIS in 2015.

**September 21:** Gunmen encircled 29 Russian military officers deployed outside of Idlib and wounded three Russian military policemen in a several-hour gun battle in northwestern Syria's Hama Province, according to the Russian Defense Ministry. Russian troops and local tribes repelled the attack. 17092102

**September 22:** *Reuters* and *AP* reported that at 10:11 a.m., the Russian submarine *Veliky Novgorod* in the Mediterranean fired Kalibr cruise missiles at al-Qaeda-linked Levant Liberation Committee Syria, targeting militants, ammunition depots and fortifications in Syria's northwestern Idlib province. Russia had earlier fired cruise missiles toward ISIS positions in Deir el-Zour Province.

**September 23:** A French member of the 13th parachute dragoon regiment died in combat while fighting extremists. It was the first time a French combat death was announced since France joined the anti–ISIS operation in Iraq in 2014, and later expanded its involvement to Syria after ISIS attacks on France. 17092302

**September 24:** Russia's Defense Ministry announced that Russian Lieutenant General Valery Asapov "was at a command post of Syrian troops, assisting the Syrian commanders in the operation for the liberation of the city of Deir ez-Zor" when he died from ISIS mortar shelling. 17092404

**October 2:** A drone strike hit a position of Lebanese Hizballah in the eastern desert, killing ten fighters. It was unclear whether the drone was flown by a government or an insurgent group. ISIS drones had recently been in the news. On October 4, Hizballah said one of its top commanders, Ali al-Hadi al-Ashiq, alias Alhaj Abbas, 44, was killed while fighting ISIS in the central desert of Palmyra. He was among first Hizballah commanders sent to Syria and participated in the key battle in al-Qusair, near the Lebanese border. He also fought against Israel. 17100201

*UPI* and *AP* reported that 17 civilians and police died and several were injured when three suicide bombers attacked a police station in Damascus's al-Midan neighborhood. A car bomber set off his explosives. A second hit the main entrance. A third set off his bomb on the first floor. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said "tens of people" were hurt. ISIS claimed credit, and released a video purporting to show two Russian soldiers captured in fighting in eastern Syria. One of the prisoners identified himself and said he and his colleague, who appeared badly beaten, were captured near al-Shula during an ISIS counteroffensive. Russia's Defense Ministry said no Russian servicemen had been captured in Syria. The *Washington Post* reported on October 6 that the duo were reportedly members of Wagner, a Kremlin-linked security contracting firm, and that one of them, Roman Zabolotny, had allegedly harassed opposition supporters of whistleblower Alexei Navalny in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. Zabolotny had served tours in Ukraine and Syria. 17100202

**October 3:** Russian Major General Igor Konashenkov, spokesman for the Defense Ministry, said that Russian airstrikes critically wounded Abu Mohammed al-Golani, leader of the al-Qaeda-linked Levant Liberation Committee, and killed twelve other militant commanders and 50 other militants who were securing the gathering.

**October 17:** Raqqa, the capital of the ISIS caliphate, fell to U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces. The caliphate had shrunk from a Virginia-sized territory in Syria and Iraq to a few scattered enclaves.

**November 5:** A truck bomb went off at a checkpoint near the Conoco gas plant near Deir el-Zour, killing more than 100 people, mostly war refugees. ISIS did not claim the attack. 17110501

**December 6:** *Newsweek* reported that the U.S. Department of Justice was attempting to retrieve jewels ISIS was using to fund its terrorist operations. DOJ filed a civil complaint in December 2016 seeking the forfeiture of four artifacts. On December 6, DOJ sought a warrant from the United States District Court for Washington, D.C., to seize a gold gemstone ring believed to date back to anywhere between 323 BC—31 BC. The jewelry was originally peddled by Abu Sayyaf, the head of the ISIS unit in charge of finding and selling relics. He died in a raid on his home in Syria in May 2015. Authorities found digital photographs of seven jewels it had appeared he planned to sell. The ISIS Ministry of Natural Resources, Department of Antiquities, sold ancient artifacts it excavated from areas it controlled.

**December 12:** A U.S. military official told *CNN* that authorities, Syrian Democratic Forces and Iraqi Security Forces had captured approximately 50 foreign ISIS fighters in Syria and Iraq since the start of November. Some fighters tried to hide in civilian vehi-

cles. The operatives came from the Middle East, Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph Dunford said in October that "as many as 40,000 foreign fighters from 120 different countries" had joined ISIS.

# Tunisia

**July 7:** *AP* reported that two former Guantanamo detainees, Hedi Hammami, 48, and Salah Sassi, claimed they were being harassed by security forces and would welcome returning to Guantanamo Bay. Neither had been charged after being in Tunisia for seven years. Two other Tunisian Guantanamo Bay alumni made their way to Syria (Rafiq al-Hami was killed there, and Lotfi Lagha returned and was convicted of terrorism charges), and Abdullah al-Hajji was unaccounted for, according to attorney Samir Ban Amor. Hammami worked as an ambulance driver. His Algerian wife and two children often spent time in Algeria; he was not permitted to travel. A dozen Tunisians had been held at Guantanamo Bay; only Ridha Yazidi remained there, with 40 other detainees.

Hammami was arrested in Pakistan in 2002. In 2005, the Pentagon said he was an al-Qaeda associate. He was freed in 2010 without charge and sent to the republic of Georgia, where he lived for two years before returning to Tunisia.

Salah Sassi was arrested in Pakistan in 2001 and freed in 2010 after the Pentagon determined that he was of limited intelligence value and posed little threat. He was sent to Albania. He now lives in Bizerte, Tunisia. His wife left him.

**November 1:** A suspected jihadi, 25, known to authorities for radicalism, stabbed two police officers near Parliament headquarters in Tunis. He was arrested. Commander Riadh Barrouta was hospitalized in intensive care after being stabbed in the back; he died on November 2. The other was stabbed in the forehead while assisting his colleague. The attacker came from the working class Ettadhamon neighborhood of Tunis. For the past three years he subscribed to an ideology that considers law enforcement officers as despots and that killing them is a form of jihad. Prosecutor Sofiane Selliti identified the suspect as Zied Gharbi, who holds a degree in computer science but was unemployed. Security officer Jamel Jarboui said Gharbi told investigators, "I'm ready to kill any police officer I meet."

# United Arab Emirates

**March 15:** *WAM* reported that Abu Dhabi's federal appeals court sentenced an Emirati, M.S.A.S., to ten years in prison for joining the IS affiliate in Yemen.

Emirati A.S.K. received an 18-month prison sentence for unlawfully possessing a firearm and having two bombs.

**April 24:** *WAM* reported that K.A.M., an Emirati previously convicted of being a member of ISIS, saw his one-year sentence increased to ten.

# West Bank

**January 17:** Troops shot to death a Palestinian armed with a knife who tried to stab a soldier at a crossing in the West Bank.

**January 25:** Soldiers shot and killed a knife-wielding Palestinian who crashed his vehicle into a West Bank bus stop during the evening. No Israelis were harmed.

Later that night, another group of troops shot and wounded a Palestinian gunman who fired from a passing vehicle at an army position. Soldiers found a crude homemade "Carlo" gun.

**March 1:** A Palestinian broke into a home in a West Bank settlement near Hebron and stabbed an Israeli, who shot and killed the terrorist. The Israeli sustained light wounds.

**March 6:** Israeli forces shot to death Basil al-Araj, 31, in Ramallah, after he opened fire on them. Authorities said he led a group planning attacks against Israeli targets and obtained weapons for the group. He was detained by Palestinian forces in 2016 for about a month. Police found two firearms at the scene.

**April 6:** In a morning attack, a Palestinian crashed his vehicle into a group of people near the settlement of Ofra in the West Bank, killing an Israeli, 20, and hospitalizing another, before being apprehended.

**April 19:** Israeli troops fired at a Palestinian assailant who rammed his car into a West Bank bus stop, injuring a 60-year-old Israeli man in the head.

**May 29:** UN Secretary General António Guterres's office announced that the UN had withdrawn support for a Palestinian community center in the West Bank that was named for Dalal Mughrabi, a woman who participated in a deadly 1978 attack in Israel. *AP* reported that Fatah member Mughrabi had participated in a 1978 bus hijacking on Israel's main coastal highway in which 38 civilians were killed. Norway had pulled its funding a day earlier.

**June 1:** A Palestinian woman attacked an Israeli soldier with a knife outside a West Bank settlement, moderately wounding him, before being shot by troops. Nouf Infeat, 15, died of her wounds the next day, according to her father, Okab Infeat.

**June 28:** Soldiers on a mission to find weapons in Hebron shot to death a Palestinian who fired on them with a homemade "Carlo" weapon.

**July 10:** Israeli troops shot to death a Palestinian who attempted to ram his car into a West Bank traffic junction, then jumped out of the vehicle with a knife and lightly wounded a soldier standing nearby.

**July 18:** Soldiers shot to death a Palestinian who rammed his vehicle into a group of soldiers securing a junction north of Hebron, injuring two.

**July 21:** Palestinian Omar al-Abed, 20, stabbed three Israelis to death and injured a woman when he hopped a fence, snuck into a home inside the West Bank settlement of Halamish during the night, knocked on a settler's door, and attacked four people with a knife. The Palestinian was shot by a responding off-duty soldier/neighbor and taken to the hospital. Among the victims were Yosef Salomon, 70, and his children, Chaya, 46 and Elad, 35. His daughter-in-law escaped to another room to hide her young children. The family was celebrating the birth of the newest grandson. Israeli Defense Minister Avigodor Lieberman said the next day that the terrorist's family's house in Kobar would be razed. Israeli troops arrested one of al-Abed's brothers. Al-Abed had posted to *Facebook* that he was upset about continuing conflict regarding the Jerusalem shrine and said "All I have is a sharpened knife and it answers the call of al-Aqsa." He deemed himself a true "Song of Palestine," called Jews "pigs and monkeys" and left behind burial rite instructions. Al-Abed was majoring in business administration in college. Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh called the attack "heroic" and "lifted the heads of the nation high." Authorities arrested Al-Abed's mother on July 24 after seeing a video of her sharing sweets with well-wishers and saying she was proud of her son.

**September 26:** *Reuters* and *AP* reported that at 7 a.m., Palestinian gunman Nimr Mahmoud Ahmed al-Jamal, 37, a father of four from Beit Surik, fired a pistol and killed Israeli paramilitary police Sergeant Solomon Gavaria, 20, and two Jewish Arab security guards—Yossef Otman, an Arab-Israeli from Abu Ghosh, and Or Arish, 25, a resident of Har Adar—at the checkpoint entrance to the Har Adar settlement where he worked as a housecleaner near Jerusalem. Another Israeli was hospitalized with serious injuries. The attacker was killed at the scene. Hamas praised the attack but did not claim responsibility. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that the home of the attacker would be demolished. Jamal's wife had recently left for Jordan; Israeli police said there was a history of domestic abuse. Police arrested three of Jamal's brothers. Gaviria was injured in an earlier knife attack.

**October 18:** The army arrested two Palestinians and closed eight media production companies for six months because they promoted "violence and terrorism against Israelis" and provided information to Palestinian media outlets belonging to Hamas. The duo were employees of the media firms. Equipment and documents were seized in the overnight raid.

# Yemen

**January 3:** Pro-government forces attacked AQAP in the Marakasha Mountain in Abyan Province, killing 15 jihadis but losing 11 of their own troops.

**January 18:** Shi'ite rebels fired a rocket into a residential area in Taiz, killing six civilians.

**January 21:** Security and tribal leaders said suspected U.S. drone strikes killed three AQAP operatives, including area field commander Abu Anis al-Abi, in Bayda Province.

**January 29:** U.S. Central Command conducted a pre-dawn raid by Apache attack helicopters on AQAP near Yakla village in Radaa district in Bayda Province, killing 14 terrorists, including three senior al-Qaeda leaders—Abdul-Raouf al-Dhahab, Sultan al-Dhahab, and Seif al-Nims—but losing Chief Petty Officer William "Ryan" Owens, 36, from Peoria, Illinois, the first service member killed in combat during the Trump Administration. Three other soldiers were wounded. Another three service members were injured in a "hard landing" of an MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft sent in to evacuate the wounded. Yemeni officials said the U.S. troops killed or wounded some two dozen men, including some Saudis present at the site. AQAP said women and children were among the 30 people who died. The Pentagon said female combatants fired at the SEALs. *CNN* reported on January 31 that the family of U.S. citizen Nawar Anwar al-Aulaqi, 8, daughter of the late AQAP operations chief Anwar al-Aulaqi, was killed.

Owens joined the Navy in 1998, earning two Bronze Stars, a Joint Service Commendation, and an Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

**February 4:** AQAP leader Qassim al-Rimi released an audio in which he said, "The White House's new fool has received a painful blow at your hands in his first outing on your land" and claimed that the January 29 U.S. raid against AQAP killed 25 people, including eleven women and children.

**February 17:** The UAE's *WAM* news agency reported that two Emirati soldiers died while taking part in the Saudi-led war in Yemen. 17021701

**February 22:** *SABA* reported that Houthi rebels fired a ballistic missile that hit the vehicle of Brigadier General Ahmed Seif al-Yafie, deputy chief of staff of the country's military, killing him and six other officers and wounding 25 in the Red Sea port of Mokha.

**February 24:** A suicide car bomber, posing as a driver carrying a load of firewood for cooking, was stopped by soldiers at the entrance to a security camp in Jaar. He set off his explosives at the gates, killing eight soldiers. No group claimed credit.

**March 2:** *NPR* reported that U.S. airstrikes against AQAP positions killed four people. *Fox News* added on March 6 that one of them was former Guantanamo Bay detainee Yasir al-Silmi, alias Mohammed Tahar, who was held from 2002 to 2009.

**March 5:** AQAP killed eleven soldiers in two attacks. Six troops died at a security checkpoint in Shukra in Abyan Province; five died in Hadramawt Province.

**March 27:** AQAP was suspected when a suicide bomber hit a government building in al-Houta in Lahj Province, killing five soldiers and wounding ten people, including civilians. Guards shot the attacker before he drove his explosives-laden vehicle inside the building.

**April 6:** An airstrike in Bayda Province killed three al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula operatives, including Khattab al-Wuhayshi, the brother of Nasir al-Wuhayshi, who was killed in a U.S. drone strike in 2015.

**April 18:** Yemeni officials said a suspected U.S. drone strike killed five alleged AQAP operatives in Shabwa Province.

**April 19:** Yemeni officials said a suspected U.S. drone strike killed four alleged AQAP fighters in Marib Province.

**May 23:** *Military Times* reported that several U.S. troops were injured during a nighttime raid against AQAP buildings in Marib Governorate in which seven AQAP terrorists were killed. Major Josh Jaques, a spokesperson for U.S. Central Command, said the buildings were "assessed to be an AQAP safe haven linked to senior AQAP financial, media, and security leaders." 17052301

**June 12:** *Reuters* reported that AQAP was suspected when terrorists set off two car bombs and fired at an army camp near Baddah in Hadramaw Province. Ten terrorists and two soldiers died.

**June 14:** The state-run *Saudi Press Agency* reported that Houthi rebels in Yemen fired a missile at an Emirati ship as it left Mokha, a strategic Red Sea port, wounding a sailor but causing no damage. 17061401

**August 13:** The *Long War Journal* reported that AQAP released the 97-page 17th edition of *Inspire* magazine. An 18-page article by the AQ Chef called "Train Derail Operations" called on supporters to strike trains in the U.S. and Europe. Techniques included directly targeting the train from "either inside or from outside," targeting "the rail itself so as to derail the train," or assault train stations, which "are always crowded and cause major interruption towards the transportation system." The manual showed how to build a mold and a metal derail device. "We will keep away from using any electronic tools or tools that are specially used in construction … so as to remove any traces for suspicion." It is "easy to design" and easy to "hide your tracks from forensics after the operation." It will leave the enemy "confused and disoriented." AQAP noted that martyrdom was not required and the attack "can be repeated." "O Mujahideen, it is time that we instill fear and make them impose strict security measures to trains as they did with their Air transportation." Such attacks "will "continue to bleed the American economy with more losses, increase the psychological warfare and make it worry, fear and weaken much more…. We have to expose more of their vulnerabilities in their security…. And when they spend millions of dollars to tackle a vulnerability we should be ready to open a new one—by the strength of Allah…. We can make their economy bleed and wage a psychological warfare by breaching vulnerabilities in their security."

The edition included calls for lone wolf attacks and

- Hamza bin Laden's "advice for martyrdom seekers in the West"
- an essay by former Guantanamo detainee and current AQAP leader Ibrahim al-Qosi entitled, "imminent threat"
- AQAP bomb maker Ibrahim Ibn Hassan al-Asiri discussing "the importance of focusing on specific kinds of targets"
- an interview with AQIM emir Abu Musab Abdul Wadoud, alias Abdelmalek Droukdel

**August 14:** A bomb hit a market in Qataba in Dhale Province, killing 13 people and wounding an unspecified number.

**October 23:** *AFP* reported that a car rigged with explosives and carrying five men drove up to a military base in Mudiya district in Abyan Province. Four men wearing suicide belts got out of the car and ran toward the base, but were shot dead. The vehicle exploded outside the base, killing the driver and three soldiers from a UAE-backed contingent of the Yemeni army.

**November 5:** *NPR* and *CNN* reported that 18 people, including five soldiers, died and twelve were injured when an ISIS suicide car bomber hit the entrance gate of the security headquarters building in Aden. Masked terrorists then stormed the compound and clashed with security forces. The terrorists placed four snipers on the roof. Officials claimed hostages were taken, later saying the terrorists opened cell gates and released prisoners. The ISIS affiliate said it killed 50 soldiers and identified the bomber as Abu Othman al-Hadrami.

**November 14:** In the morning, an Islamic State in Yemen suicide car bomber attacked security forces at a building in the Sheikh Othman district of central Aden, killing six soldiers and injuring scores. IS-Y said the attacker was Abu Hagar al-Adani, which means he lived in Aden. The security building served as an operations center for the UAE-trained Security Belt, a parallel body to the government's forces.

**December 4:** *AP*, *CNN*, and *CBS News* reported that Houthi (Ansar Allah) rebels killed former president and ally Ali Abdullah Saleh at a checkpoint outside Sana'a. The rebels said he was trying to flee shelling of his Sana'a home via Marib and on to Saudi Arabia. Other rebels said he died while en route with senior party leaders from Sanaa to Sanhan, his hometown. Houthi fighters in 20 armored vehicles attacked and killed him and almost all those with him.

**December 8:** U.S. Central Command announced that airstrikes conducted on November 20 in Bayda Province killed five AQAP operatives, including Mujahid al-Adani, an al-Qaeda leader in neighboring Shabwa Province.

**December 11:** *SABA* reported that Houthi rebels killed 20 people, blew up 20 houses in Hajja Province, and detained 49 people in Mahwet Province since killing former President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

# United States and Canada

## Canada

**January 29:** Shortly before 8 p.m., a gunman in a hood or ski mask killed six people between 35 and 70 years old and wounded 19, five critically, in an attack on worshippers during evening prayers in the men's section of the Quebec Islamic Cultural Center mosque in Quebec City. Nineteen people were hospitalized at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus. Two suspects were arrested. After he phoned police from his car to say that he was armed but willing to cooperate, one suspect was arrested at 9 p.m., 14 miles east of the mosque along the shore of the St. Lawrence River on the approach to a bridge leading to the Island of Orleans. The second suspect was arrested close to the mosque. Quebec City court clerk Isabelle Ferland said Canadian citizen Alexandre Bissonnette, 27, and Mohamed el-Khadir, variant Belkhadir, 29, were held. They were in their late 20s or early 30s and had no prior police records. Quebec authorities charged Bissonnette on January 30 with six counts of first-degree murder and five counts of attempted murder with a firearm. Police said el-Khadir was a witness, not a suspect. He had run when he saw someone with a gun—it was a police officer, who arrested him.

In June 2016, during the middle of Ramadan, someone left a bloody pig's head wrapped in cellophane at the front door of the Quebec Islamic Cultural Center, along with a note reading "Bonne appétit."

The victims were all Canadian citizens, and included men of Tunisian, Guinean, Moroccan and Algerian descent, and among them were businessmen, shopkeepers, and a university professor. Two victims were from Guinea, married and left six children. The other victims were born in Tunisia and had young families. The dead included:

- Mamadou Tanou Barry, 42, a Guinean who was working on a 100-meter-deep well to bring a steady supply of drinking water to his home village outside Labe, Guinea. He studied in London before moving to Canada five years ago to work as an accountant. He left behind two children in Canada, and a family in Guinea. In 2016, his father died while riding in a Jeep that Mamadou had purchased.
- Ibrahima Barry, 39, a Guinean not related to Mamadou.
- Khaled Belkacemi, 60, an Algerian-born professor at the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences of the nearby Laval University who specialized in "green" chemistry and functional foods.
- Abdelkrim Hassen, 41, who worked in information technology for the government. He left behind a wife and three daughters.
- Azzeddine Soufiane, 57, a Moroccan-born butcher.
- Aboubaker Thabti, 44.

François Deschamps, an official with the refugee advocacy group Bienvenues aux Refugiés (Welcome to Refugees), said Bissonnette, an introverted university student and twin, was known for taking right-wing, anti-feminist, nationalist positions and had *Facebook* likes for U.S. President Donald Trump and Marine Le Pen, head of a French far-right party. A neighbor said the twins were obsessed with violent computer games and were bullied at school. 17012901

**March 10:** Former Guantanamo Bay prisoner Omar Khadr, 30, underwent a 19-hour shoulder operation at the University of Alberta Hospital to address wounds to his shoulder that he suffered in Afghanistan before his capture in 2002. His attorney was Dennis Edney, a lawyer who worked to secure his release from the U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and allowed Khadr to live at his home in Canada after his release in May 2015 pending an appeal of his guilty plea.

**March 29:** At 11 p.m., a bomb exploded at a provincial courthouse in Saskatoon, causing no injuries.

**April 11:** Lindsay Kantha Souvannarath, 25, of Geneva, Illinois, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder in a plot in which she and two online friends would open fire at the Halifax Shopping Centre in

Nova Scotia on Valentine's Day 2015 then kill themselves. She plotted with Randall Steven Shepherd, who entered a guilty plea in November 2016 to conspiracy to commit murder. *NPR* reported that authorities phoned James Gamble, 19, the third suspect, and heard a gunshot. He was found dead in his home in the Halifax suburb of Timberlea after he shot himself. Souvannarath confessed after she was arrested at the Halifax airport en route to Chicago. She had prepared a number of pronouncements to be posted on *Twitter* after her death. She was carrying a book on serial killers. Shepherd also was arrested at the airport as he waited for his friend's arrival. Police credited the Crime Stoppers tip line.

**July 4:** *AP* reported that the Canadian government planned to apologize and give 10.5 million Canadian dollars (U.S.$8 million) to Canadian-born Omar Khadr, a former Guantanamo Bay prisoner who pleaded guilty to killing an American Special Forces medic, U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Christopher Speer, in Afghanistan when he was 15. He was represented by attorney Dennis Edney of Edmonton, Alberta. Speer's family said they would attempt to attach the money. Ottawa made the apology and a payment on July 7.

**September 30:** At 8:15 a.m., a man in his 30s driving a white Chevrolet Malibu rammed a traffic control barricade and sent an officer flying into the air 15 feet outside an evening Canadian Football League game in Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium in Alberta. The driver then attacked the officer with a knife before running away. Police found an ISIS flag on the car's front seat. Constable Mike Chernyk was released from the hospital with stab wounds on his face and head and abrasions on his arms.

Hours later, police stopped a U-Haul van at an impaired driving check stop north of downtown Edmonton on Wayne Gretzky Drive. The driver's name was similar to that of the registered owner of the car in the previous incident. The U-Haul sped off; during the ensuing high-speed chase, another four people were injured when the driver intentionally swerved at pedestrians at crosswalks. Among the injured was a man at The Pint bar. Two were released from the hospital and one was upgraded from critical to stable condition. Their injuries ranged from broken limbs to brain bleeding. The van flipped over near a downtown hotel. Police used a Taser to arrest a man believed to have acted alone. No shots were fired.

Police treated the incidents as acts of terrorism.

Police later said the suspect was a Somali refugee, 30, who entered Canada legally—apparently from the U.S.—in 2012, applied for and was granted refugee status and was known to Edmonton police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Pending charges included terrorism and five counts of attempted murder. He was flagged in 2015 for extremist ideologies and police interviewed him at the time, but charges were not warranted.

On October 2, Canadian prosecutors filed charges against Abdulahi Hasan Sharif, variant Hasan Sharif Abdulahi, including five counts of attempted murder, five counts of dangerous driving and one weapons charge. A bail hearing was scheduled for October 3 but recessed until November 14 so he could find an attorney.

On October 3, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said that the refugee was taken into ICE's custody in San Diego in July 2011 and in September 2011 an immigration judge ordered him sent back to Somalia. He was released from custody two months later, then failed to report as ordered for his removal on January 24, 2012. Efforts to locate him were unsuccessful.

# United States

**January 5:** *ABC News* reported that the U.S. Department of State had designated Osama bin Laden's son, Hamza bin Laden, a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist." Hamza was born in 1989 and was announced as an al-Qaeda member in 2015. Hamza bin Laden was the second of Osama bin Laden's 20-plus children to be sanctioned by the U.S.

The State Department also designated Ibrahim al-Banna, a senior member of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). The U.S. offered a reward of $5 million for his capture. In January 2009, the U.S. Department of the Treasury designated Sa'ad bin Laden for being involved in al-Qaeda activities. He was killed by a U.S. drone strike in 2009.

**January 6:** The *Washington Post* and *CNN* reported that at 12:55 p.m., a gunman wordlessly fired on passengers in the lower baggage claim area of Terminal Two (Delta and Air Canada) of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, killing five people and hospitalizing six (originally reported as eight) with gunshot wounds and another 40 with related injuries, such as broken limbs and contusions sustained during the race to get out of the terminal. The Broward County Sheriff's Department said the suspected shooter was in custody. *CNN* reported that the shooter had arrived using a one-way ticket on a Delta flight via Minneapolis from his home state of Alaska, picked up his checked luggage which had a Walther 9-millimeter pistol and two magazines he had declared in Anchorage, retrieved the handgun while inside a restroom, and came out shooting. Law enforcement said Esteban Santiago, 26, was a National Guard vet from Anchorage who had been hearing voices telling him to join ISIS. Local and federal authorities were investigating reports that the suspect got into an altercation on board his flight to Florida. One witness said he reloaded at least once, then, when

he ran out of ammunition, laid down on the floor in a spread-eagled position to wait for authorities.

Santiago was an Iraq War veteran who had complained that the CIA was forcing him to watch ISIS videos to control his mind. He voluntarily visited an FBI office in November 2016, leaving his newborn child and a handgun in the car, saying that he did not intend to hurt anyone, but made incoherent and erratic statements. The FBI asked local police to take him for a mental health evaluation. The Bureau closed its assessment of him. Authorities confiscated his handgun, but gave it back to him on December 8, 2016. He used it in the Fort Lauderdale shooting.

Law enforcement raided a home in Anchorage, where a neighbor said that Santiago had lived with a woman and two small children. He was born in New Jersey and moved to Puerto Rico at age two. He grew up in Penuelas, Puerto Rico. Santiago joined the National Guard in Puerto Rico in 2007. In April 2010, he went to Iraq for ten months, serving with the 130th Engineer Battalion. The Alaska Army National Guard said Santiago was in the Army Reserves before he joined the Guard there in November 2014. Santiago was given a general discharge in August 2016 for unsatisfactory performance; he had gone AWOL several times and was demoted from specialist to private first class. One of Santiago's military awards was a combat action badge. Santiago worked for a security company in Anchorage. He had a child with Gina Peterson.

The *Sun Sentinel* reported that the court read aloud the names of the dead:

- Shirley Wells Timmons, 70, from Senecaville, Ohio. Her husband Steve, 70, was critically injured in the head and underwent surgery. They were planning to join the rest of their family for a cruise, according to *WILE-FM*. Their 51st anniversary was in three weeks.
- Mary Louise Amzibel, 69, of Dover, Delaware, whose husband, Edward, was wounded.
- Terry Michael Andres, 62, of Virginia Beach was going to take a Caribbean cruise with his wife, Ann. They then planned to spend a week in Cancun, Mexico. The couple had offered their generator to neighbors as a snowstorm loomed. Terry Andres worked at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in nearby Portsmouth. He played golf and tennis. The couple would have celebrated their birthdays during the trip. They were married for 40 years.
- Olga M. Woltering, 84, a great-grandmother from Marietta, Georgia, attended the Catholic Church of the Transfiguration in Cobb County, Georgia with her husband since 1978. The couple were about to take a cruise. She was originally from the UK. Ralph Woltering, in his 90s, had served in the U.S. Air Force. They lived in a retirement community. She was in the ladies auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus; Ralph was involved with the Knights of Columbus.
- Michael John Oehme, 57, a land surveyor from Council Bluffs, Iowa, who owned Boundary-line Surveys, was about to cruise with his wife, Kari, a clerical worker who was hospitalized with a gunshot wound to the shoulder.

Santiago recently began selling his possessions, including his car. Friends and associates noticed recent more erratic behavior.

In January 2016, he was arrested after an argument with his girlfriend in Anchorage. He yelled at her while she was in the bathroom, then broke down the bathroom door. She told investigators that Santiago strangled her and struck her in the side of the head. Anchorage municipal prosecutor Seneca Theno said Santiago pleaded no contest to criminal mischief and assault charges. Under a deferred prosecution agreement, the charges would have been dismissed if he complied with the conditions. He was due for a court hearing on March 28, 2017.

Santiago appeared in court on January 9 when he was appointed public defenders. He faced three federal charges that each carries the death penalty. He was charged with causing serious bodily injury to someone at an international airport; using a firearm during and in relation to a violent crime; and causing the death of a person through the use of a firearm. U.S. Magistrate Judge Alicia Valle ordered him held until his next hearing on January 17, followed by arraignment for entering a plea on January 23. He told the judge he had served in the Army, making $15,000 annually. His monthly expenses included $560 rent, plus phone and utilities. He said he owned no property or vehicle. He worked for the Signal 88 security company in Anchorage until November, making $2,100 monthly. He was represented by public defender Robert Beruve. U.S. Magistrate Judge Lurana Snow set an arraignment hearing for January 30, at which time Santiago was to enter a plea.

On January 27, a federal grand jury in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida in Broward County indicted Santiago with 22 counts, including eleven counts of violence at an international airport that resulted in death or serious injury, six counts of using and discharging a firearm during a crime of violence and five counts of causing someone's death by using a firearm. He faced the death penalty because of such factors as killing people during the commission of another crime, "substantial planning and premeditation" and that three of the victims were deemed "particularly vulnerable due to old age." Santiago pleaded not guilty to the charges on January 30.

On December 18 U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom postponed Esteban Santiago's trial. Prosecutors were deciding whether to request the death penalty. The

trial was originally scheduled for January 22, 2018, in a Miami federal court. A May 1, 2018, court hearing was scheduled. He was taking prescription medication to treat his schizophrenia.

**January 9:** More than a dozen bomb threats were made at Jewish centers in the U.S. and UK. *WPLG* reported that more than 500 students and employees were evacuated from the Alper Jewish community campus in the Miami-Dade area in the late morning. Simultaneously, a bomb threat was called in to a Miami Beach center. A preschool was evacuated after a bomb threat was received at a center in Tenafly, New Jersey. No bombs were found. Another bomb threat was made against the Siegel Jewish Community Center north of Wilmington, Delaware, according to www.hockessincommunitynews.com. Threats were also made in Nashville; Pennsylvania; North Carolina; Columbia, South Carolina; Kendall, Miami Beach, Orlando, Tampa, and Jacksonville, Florida; and Rockville, Maryland. The Jewish Community Alliance on San Jose Boulevard in Jacksonville, Florida was evacuated at 11 a.m.; no bomb was found. The *Florida Times-Union* reported that eight threats had targeted Jewish institutions in Florida during the previous week; they included Maitland, Orlando, and Tampa, including two preschools. Threats were made to centers in Georgia and New Jersey the previous week.

On April 21 the U.S. charged in Orlando federal court dual Israeli-U.S. national Michael Ron David Kadar with 28 counts of making threatening calls and conveying false information to police. Prosecutors said he used an online calling service to disguise his voice as a woman. Florida prosecutors said he made 245 threatening calls from January to March and recorded each of the calls at his home in Ashkelon, Israel. He was arrested in Israel in March. He was indicted in federal court in Athens, Georgia on three more counts of making threatening calls, conveying false information, and cyber stalking.

**January 10:** The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. Department of State named Ali Da'amoush and Mustafa Mughniyeh, members of Hizballah's senior leadership, as specially designated global terrorists.

Ali Da'amoush is a Shi'ite cleric and the head of Hizballah's Foreign Relations Department (FRD), which engages in covert terrorist operations around the world. He is an aide to the group's leader, Hassan Nasrallah. Da'amoush was born in Sidon, Lebanon, on October 21, 1962. In 1977, he moved to Najaf, Iraq, to study but was imprisoned and deported shortly thereafter by Saddam Hussein's government. In 1979, Da'amoush traveled to Iran to study in Qom, where he remained until 1993. In 1994, Da'amoush joined Hizballah. He served for four years as a member of the group's Shari'a council. He then joined its executive council, running its central cultural committee from 1988–2001, before finally heading the FRD in 2001.

Mustafa Mughniyeh was born in January 1987 in Tehran. He is the elder son of former Hizballah military commander Imad Mughniyeh and the nephew of previous commander Mustafa Badreddine. Mustafa's younger brother, Jihad, was killed in an Israeli airstrike in January 2015 in the Golan Heights. In 2005, at age 18, he began accompanying his father on operational missions. He served in Badreddine's security detail. He coordinated the movements of Hizballah leaders between Lebanon, Syria and Iran. He was also allegedly assigned by Nasrallah and Qassem Soleimani, commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Quds Force, to command Hizballah's Golan Heights front.

The U.S. Departments of State and Treasury designated Jamaah Ansharut Daulah as a terrorist group and announced sanctions on four terrorists, including two Australians, both previously believed killed in the Middle East, and two Indonesians, one of whom is in prison in Indonesia. The Australians are Neil Christopher Prakash, alias Khaled Al-Cambodi, who was the senior Australian recruiter for IS, and Khaled Sharrouf, an ISIS fighter in Syria and Iraq since 2014 who carried out executions for ISIS. The Indonesians are Bahrum Syah, who sent funds to terrorists in Indonesia from Syria, and his mentor Aman Abdurrahman, who from prison has recruited ISIS terrorists, authorized attacks and was ISIS's main translator in Indonesia.

**January 14:** *CNN* reported that arsonists were suspected when a mosque in Bellevue, Washington, was badly burned. No one was in the Islamic Center of Eastside, also known as the Bellevue Masjid. No injuries were reported. *KCPQ* reported that firefighters found 40-foot flames on the rear of the building. Isaac Wayne Wilson, 37, was charged with felony malicious mischief and was being investigated for arson. Police found him lying on the ground near the back of the building. *KOMO* reported, "Police said the suspect had previously been arrested for making a disturbance at the mosque."

**January 24:** At 8:45 a.m., a pipe bomb was found by an employee at West Rock Recyclers at 1580 West Beaver Street in Jacksonville, Florida.

**January 28:** At 2 a.m., the Islamic Center of Victoria, Texas, was destroyed by fire. It was a hate target several years earlier and was burglarized the previous week.

**January 30:** The *Florida Times-Union* reported that Chief U.S. District Judge Lisa Godbey Wood in Brunswick, Georgia sentenced David J. Gould, 38, to 15 years for illegally possessing guns that he sold to people he believed were members of a militia that wanted to overthrow the government. In June 2016, Gould

pleaded guilty to five counts of a 20-count federal indictment. He was represented by attorney Stephanie R McDonald. He had faced a mandatory life sentenced if convicted of possessing a machine gun in the commission of a crime. He instead pleaded guilty to two counts each of illegally possessing a machine gun and distributing marijuana and one count of carrying a firearm in the commission of a crime. His attorney said he was trying to use his gun hobby to make money for his son's college tuition. He sold the guns to undercover law enforcement agents in Savannah and Brunswick.

**February 2:** *CNN* reported that a man threw a pyrotechnic device into a Pasadena Cheesecake Factory during the evening, causing no injuries but filling the restaurant with smoke. The man fled. Witnesses said he was a "male of Hispanic or Middle Eastern descent … with a heavy beard and wearing all black clothing and a black beanie."

**February 7:** The White House claimed the news media underreported the following 78 terrorist attacks. (Typos and misspellings have been corrected. For further information on these attacks, see previous volumes of this series, which are based upon media reporting.) The *Evening Standard* reported on February 7, 2017, that Rosie Ayliffe, the mother of Mia Ayliffe-Chung, 20, a British backpacker stabbed to death by Smail Ayad in an Australian hostel on August 23, 2016, disputed that the murder was terrorist-related. Fellow Briton Tom Jackson was fatally injured as he tried to save her. *AP* and *The Independent* added on February 11 that Lyle Zimmerman said that Muhiddin Mire's stabbing of him in an east London Tube station in December 2015 was the work of a mentally disturbed individual, not terrorism (although Mire yelled, "This is for Syria, my Muslim brothers, all your blood will be spilled," according to the *Guardian*).

***September 2014–December 2016***

- Melbourne, Australia, September 2014. Target: Two police officers wounded in knife attack. Attacker: Abdul Numan Haider.
- Tizi Ouzou, Algeria, September 2014. Target: One French citizen beheaded. Attacker: Jund al-Khilafah in Algeria.
- Quebec, Canada, October 2014. Target: One soldier killed and one wounded in vehicle attack. Attacker: Martin Couture-Rouleau.
- Ottawa, Canada, October 2014. Target: One soldier killed at war memorial; two wounded in shootings at Parliament building. Attacker: Michael Zehaf-Bibeau.
- New York City, NY, October 2014. Target: Two police officers wounded in knife attack. Attacker: U.S. person.
- Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, November 2014. Target: One Danish citizen wounded in shooting. Attackers: Three Saudi Arabia–like ISIL members.
- Abu Dhabi, UAE, December 2014. Target: One American killed in knife attack. Attacker: Dalal al-Hashimi.
- Sydney, Australia, December 2014. Target: Two Australians killed in hostage taking and shooting. Attacker: Man Haron Monis.
- Tours, France, December 2014. Target: Three police officers wounded in knife attack. Attacker: Bertrand Nzohabonayo.
- Paris, France, January 2015. Target: One police officer and four hostages killed in shooting at a kosher supermarket. Attacker: Amedy Coulibaly.
- Tripoli, Libya, January 2015. Target: Ten killed, including one U.S. citizen, and five wounded in bombing and shooting at a hotel frequented by Westerners. Attackers: As many as five ISIL-Libya members.
- Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, January 2015. Target: Two U.S. citizens wounded in shooting. Attacker: Saudi Arabia–like ISIL supporter.
- Nice, France, February 2015. Target: Two French soldiers wounded in knife attack outside a Jewish community center. Attacker: Moussa Coulibaly.
- Copenhagen, Denmark, February 2015. Target: One civilian killed in shooting at a free-speech rally and one security guard killed outside the city's main synagogue. Attacker: Omar Abdel Hamid el-Hussein.
- Tunis, Tunisia, March 2015. Target: 21 tourists killed, including 16 Westerners, and 55 wounded in shooting at the Bardo Museum. Attackers: Two ISIL-aligned extremists.
- Karachi, Pakistan, April 2015. Target: One U.S. citizen wounded in knife attack. Attackers: Pakistan-based ISIL supporters.
- Paris, France, April 2015. Target: Catholic churches targeted; one civilian killed in shooting, possibly during an attempted carjacking. Attacker: Sid Ahmed Ghlam.
- Zvornik, Bosnia, April 2015. Target: One police officer killed and two wounded in shooting. Attacker: Nerdin Ibric.
- Garland, TX, May 2015. Target: One security guard wounded in shooting at the Prophet Muhammad cartoon event. Attackers: Two U.S. persons.
- Boston, MA, June 2015. Target: No casualties; one police officer attacked with knife. Attacker: U.S. person.
- El Gora (Al Jurah), Egypt, June 2015. Target: No casualties; camp used by Multinational Force

and Observers (MFO) troops attacked in shooting and bombing attack. Attackers: Unknown number of ISIL-Sinai members.

º Luxor, Egypt, June 2015. Target: One police officer killed by suicide bomb near the Temple of Karnak. Attacker: Unidentified.

º Sousse, Tunisia, June 2015. Target: 38 killed and 39 wounded in shooting at a beach frequented by Westerners. Attackers: Seifeddine Rezgui and another unidentified attacker.

º Lyon, France, June 2015. Target: One civilian killed in beheading and explosion at a chemical plant. Attacker: Yasin Salhi.

º Cairo, Egypt, July 2015. Target: One killed and nine wounded in VBIED attack at Italian Consulate. Attacker: Unidentified ISIL operatives.

º Cairo, Egypt, July 2015. Target: One Croatian national kidnapped; beheaded on August 12 at an unknown location. Attacker: Unidentified ISIL-Sinai operative.

º Paris, France, August 2015. Target: Two civilians and one U.S. soldier wounded with firearms and knife on a passenger train. Attacker: Ayoub el-Khazzani.

º El Gora, Egypt, September 2015. Target: Four U.S. and two MFO troops wounded in IED attack. Attacker: Unidentified

º Dhaka, Bangladesh, September 2015. Target: One Italian civilian killed in shooting. Attacker: Unidentified.

º Copenhagen, Denmark, September 2015. Target: One police officer wounded in knife attack. Attacker: Palestinian national.

º El Gora, Egypt, October 2015. Target: No casualties; airfield used by MFO attacked with rockets. Attacker: Unidentified ISIL-Sinai operatives.

º Parramatta, Australia, October 2015. Target: One police officer killed in shooting. Attacker: Farhad Jabar.

º Rangpur, Bangladesh, October 2015. Target: One Japanese civilian killed in shooting. Attacker: Unidentified.

º Hasanah, Egypt, October 2015. Target: 224 killed in downing of a Russian airliner. Attacker: Unidentified ISIL-Sinai operatives.

º Merced, CA, November 2015. Target: Four wounded in knife attack on a college campus. Attacker: U.S. person.

º Paris, France, November 2015. Target: At least 129 killed and approximately 400 wounded in series of shootings and IED attacks. Attackers: Brahim Abdelslam, Saleh Abdeslam, Ismail Mostefai, Bilal Hadfi, Samy Amimour, Chakib Ahrouh, Foued Mohamed Aggad, and Abdelhamid Abaaoud.

º Dinajpur, Bangladesh, November 2015. Target: One Italian citizen wounded in shooting. Attacker: Unidentified.

º Rajlovac, Bosnia, December 2015. Target: Two Bosnian soldiers killed in shooting. Attacker: Enes Omeragic.

º San Bernardino, CA, December 2015. Target: 14 killed and 21 wounded in coordinated firearms attack. Attackers: Two U.S. persons.

º London, England, December 2015. Target: Three wounded in knife attack at an underground rail station. Attacker: Muhyadin Mire.

º Derbent, Russia, December 2015. Target: One killed and 11 wounded in shooting at UN World Heritage site. Attacker: Unidentified ISIL-Caucasus operative.

º Cairo, Egypt, January 2016. Target: Two wounded in drive-by shooting outside a hotel frequented by tourists. Attackers: Unidentified ISIL operatives.

º Paris, France, January 2016. Target: No casualties; attacker killed after attempted knife attack on Paris police station. Attacker: Tarek Belgacem.

º Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 2016. Target: One police officer wounded in shooting. Attacker: U.S. person.

º Hurghada, Egypt, January 2016. Target: One German and one Danish national wounded in knife attack at a tourist resort. Attacker: Unidentified.

º Marseilles, France, January 2016. Target: One Jewish teacher wounded in machete attack. Attacker: 15-year-old Ethnic Kurd from Turkey.

º Istanbul, Turkey, January 2016. Target: 12 German tourists killed and 15 wounded in suicide bombing. Attacker: Nabil Fadli.

º Jakarta, Indonesia, January 2016. Target: Four civilians killed and more than 20 wounded in coordinated bombing and firearms attacks near a police station and a Starbucks. Attackers: Dian Joni Kurnaiadi, Muhammad Ali, Arif Sunakim, and Ahmad Muhazan bin Saron.

º Columbus, OH, February 2016. Target: Four civilians wounded in machete attack at a restaurant. Attacker: U.S. person.

º Hanover, Germany, February 2016. Target: One police officer wounded in knife attack. Attacker: Safia Schmitter.

º Istanbul, Turkey, March 2016. Target: Four killed and 36 wounded in suicide bombing in the tourist district. Attacker: Mehmet Ozturk.

- Brussels, Belgium, March 2016. Target: At least 31 killed and 270 wounded in coordinated bombings at Zaventem Airport and on a subway train. Attackers: Khalid el-Bakraoui, Ibrahim el-Bakraoui, Najim Laachraoui, Mohammed Abrini, and Osama Krayem.
- Essen, Germany, April 2016. Target: Three wounded in bombing at Sikh temple. Attackers: Three identified minors.
- Orlando, FL, June 2016. Target: 49 killed and 53 wounded in shooting at a nightclub. Attacker: U.S. person.
- Magnanville, France, June 2016. Target: One police officer and one civilian killed in knife attack. Attacker: Larossi Abballa.
- Kabul, Afghanistan, June 2016. Target: 14 killed in suicide attack on a bus carrying Canadian Embassy guards. Attacker: ISIL-Khorasan operative.
- Istanbul, Turkey, June 2016. Target: 45 killed and approximately 240 wounded at Ataturk International Airport. Attackers: Rakhim Bulgarov, Vadim Osmanov, and an unidentified ISIL operative.
- Dhaka, Bangladesh, July 2016. Target: 22 killed, including one American and 50 wounded after hours-long siege using machetes and firearms at holy Artisan Bakery. Attackers: Nibras Islam, Rohan Imtiaz, Meer Saameh Mubasheer, Khairul Islam Paye, and Shafiqul Islam Uzzal.
- Nice, France, July 2016. Target: 84 civilians killed and 308 wounded by an individual who drove a truck into a crowd. Attacker: Mohamed Bouhlel.
- Wurzburg, Germany, July 2016. Target: Four civilians wounded in axe attack on a train. Attacker: Riaz Khan Ahmadzai.
- Ansbach, Germany, July 2016. Target: At least 15 wounded in suicide bombing at a music festival. Attacker: Mohammad Daleel.
- Normandy, France, July 2016. Target: One priest killed in knife attack. Attackers: Adel Kermiche and Abdel Malik Nabil Petitjean.
- Chaleroi, Belgium, August 2016. Target: Two police officers wounded in machete attack. Attacker: Khaled Babouri.
- Queensland, Australia, August 2016. Target: Two killed and one wounded in knife attack at a hostel frequented by Westerners. Attacker: Smail Ayad.
- Copenhagen, Denmark, September 2016. Target: Two police officers and a civilian wounded in shooting. Attacker: Mesa Hodzic.
- Paris, France, September 2016. Target: One police officer wounded in raid after VBIED failed to detonate at Notre Dame Cathedral. Attackers: Sarah Hervouet, Ines Madani, and Amel Sakaou.
- Sydney, Australia, September 2016. Target: One civilian wounded in knife attack. Attacker: Ihsas Khan.
- St. Cloud, MN, September 2016. Target: 10 wounded in knife attack in a mall. Attacker: Dahir Ahmed Adan.
- New York, NY; Seaside Park and Elizabeth, NJ, September 2016. Target: 31 wounded in bombing in New York City; several explosive devices found in New York and New Jersey; one exploded without casualty at race in New Jersey; one police officer wounded in shoot-out. Attacker: Ahmad Khan Rahami.
- Brussels, Belgium, October 2016. Target: Two police officers wounded in stabbing. Attacker: Belgian national.
- Kuwait City, Kuwait, Target: No casualties; vehicle carrying three U.S. soldiers hit by a truck. Attacker: Ibrahim Sulayman.
- Malmo, Sweden, October 2016. Target: No casualties; mosque and community center attacked with Molotov cocktail. Attacker: Syrian national.
- Hamburg, Germany, October 2016. Target: One killed in knife attack. Attacker: Unknown.
- Manila, Philippines, November 2016. Target: No casualties; failed IED attempt near U.S. Embassy. Attackers: Philippine nationals aligned with the Maute group.
- Columbus, OH, November 2016. Target: 14 wounded by individuals who drove a vehicle into a group of pedestrians and attacked them with a knife. Attacker: U.S. person.
- N'Djamena, Chad, November 2016. Target: No casualties; attacker arrested after opening fire at entrance of U.S. Embassy. Attacker: Chadian national.
- Karak, Jordan, December 2016. Target: 10 killed and 28 wounded in shooting at a tourist site. Attackers: Several gunmen.
- Berlin, Germany, December 2016. Target: 12 killed and 48 wounded by individual who drove truck into a crowded market. Attacker: Anis Amri.

**February 16:** *WESH 2 News* reported that FBI and ATF agents arrested Mark Charles Barnett, 48, of Ocala, Florida, for trying to recruit someone to put ten bombs in ten different Target stores in Florida, New York, and Virginia in a belief that it would earn him money by forcing Target stock to fail and eventually rebound. Authorities said he filled empty food boxes, which had pasta and breakfast bar logos on the packaging, with gunpowder and a detonator.

Agents found matching materials in a shed behind his home. Barnett was recorded talking about the plot with a person he was trying to hire as an accomplice. He gave the person gloves and gas money and offered $10,000 to "deliver packages," warning that the bombs could "take your hand off." A neighbor said Barnett was a convicted sex offender. He faced ten years in prison. *AP* reported that a probation officer for the recruit tipped off federal authorities. Barnett was charged with possession of a firearm (destructive device) affecting commerce by a previously convicted felon.

*CNN* reported that nearly 60 bomb threats were made against 48 Jewish Community Centers across the country in the previous few weeks. Most occurred on January 9, 18, and 31. One threat was made in a Canadian province. Other threats were made in Albany, New York; Orlando (a JCC and a Chabad); Wilmington, Delaware; and San Diego, California.

The *Washington Post* reported that Benjamin Thomas Samuel McDowell, 29, of South Carolina, who had white supremacist connections, was arrested and accused of plotting an attack after telling an undercover FBI employee he wanted to do something on a "big scale" and then write on the building he had targeted, "In the spirit of Dylann Roof." The criminal complaint quoted him as telling the FBI agent, "I seen what Dylann Roof did and in my heart I reckon I got a little bit of hatred and I … I want to do that s—. Like, I got desire … not for nobody else … it just…. I want something where I can say, 'I f— did that' … me personally." While earlier in prison for various criminal offenses, McDowell had made white supremacist connections and later posted rambling, expletive-filled white supremacist rants on *Facebook*. In early January, he requested an "iron" (gun) from someone via *Facebook*'s instant messenger. The undercover FBI employee posed as an Aryan Nations fixer. He told the undercover FBI employee he wanted to target nonwhites at a county outside the one where he lived. McDowell bought a .40-caliber handgun, the firing pin of which had been shaved down, for $109. Agents then arrested McDowell.

**February 17:** *CNN* reported that U.S. District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema sentenced Haris Qamar, 26, of Burke, Virginia, to eight and one half years in prison after pleading guilty in October to attempting to provide material support to ISIS.

**February 18:** Egypt-born "blind sheik" Omar Abdel Rahman, 78, who was convicted in 1995 of being a mastermind of terrorist plots against the United States, died of diabetes and heart disease at 5:40 a.m. at a federal prison in Butner, North Carolina, where he was serving a life sentence. He was twice acquitted of helping plot the October 6, 1981, assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Several of his followers were convicted in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center that killed six people and injured 1,000. He was arrested for planning to "levy a war of urban terrorism against the United States" in plotting to blow up the United Nations Secretariat building, the Lincoln and Holland tunnels in New York City, the George Washington Bridge and the building housing the FBI's New York field office. He and nine followers were found guilty. He was also convicted in a plot to assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri called on Egyptians to kidnap Americans in effort to win Abdel Rahman's release. Omar Abdel Rahman was born May 3, 1938, in El Gamalia, Egypt. He studied a Braille version of the Koran and had memorized it by age 11. In 1965, he received a doctorate in Islamic law from Cairo's al-Azhar University. In the late 1970s, he was the spiritual leader of the al-Gama al-Islamiyya terrorist group. He had two wives and ten children.

**February 20:** *CNN* reported that bomb threats were made against eleven Jewish Community Centers across the country. Ivanka Trump, who converted to Judaism, tweeted: "America is a nation built on the principle of religious tolerance. We must protect our houses of worship & religious centers. #JCC." The *JTA* Jewish news agency obtained a recording of one of the calls in which the caller said a C-4 bomb had been placed in the JCC and that "a large number of Jews are going to be slaughtered." The next day, President Donald Trump called the threats "horrible" and "painful."

**February 21:** *ABC News* reported that federal authorities charged Robert Lorenzo Hester, Jr., 25, of Columbia, Missouri, with attempting to provide material support to ISIS by making preparations to launch a terrorist attack with undercover law enforcement personnel he believed were associated with ISIS. Hester was arrested on February 17 at a meeting with an undercover FBI agent. Hester lived on the 1700 block of Hanover Boulevard in Columbia. The U.S. citizen was born in Missouri. He was enlisted in the U.S. Army for less than a year, obtaining a general discharge in 2013. His online aliases included Mohammed Junaid al-Amreeki, Junaid Muhammad, Rabbani Junaid Muhammad, Rami Talib, and Ali Talib Muhammad. The *Washington Post* reported that he had two children. In one social media profile, he said he was a "Zionist Jew Pig Redneck Hunting Super Assassin" and featured the Black Flag of Tawhid, which is frequently seen in ISIS propaganda videos. He posted on July 4, 2016, that "Isis [was] created by U.S. And Israeli government…. A true Muslim would never commit a suicide bombing during Ramadan." In July, he posted "Burn in hell FBI" and to colleagues that an encrypted messaging application was "no longer safe." In September, he wrote "Brothers in AmurdiKKKa we need to get something going here

all those rednecks have their little militias why shouldn't we do the same." He later suggested forming "The Lion Guard…. It started as a cartoon my children watch but i would like to take in a new direction a group of lions to guard the ummah…. We need people to come together though to make things happen."

**February 22:** Adam Purinton, 51, a former air traffic controller, yelled at two Indian Hindu men to "get out of my country," then fired at them in a crowded bar in Olathe, Kansas, killing Srinivas Kuchibhotla, 32, and wounding Alok Madasani, 32, as well as a third man, Ian Grillot, who tried to help the victims. Hours later, he told a bartender at Austin's Bar and Grill in a suburb that he needed a hidey-hole since he had killed two Middle Easterners. He said the same thing to another bartender at an Applebee's in Clinton, Missouri. Kuchibhotla came to the U.S. in 2005 to earn an MA at the University of Texas at El Paso, and worked in Iowa for six years. He worked for Garmin in Kansas City. The shooter was jailed on murder and attempted murder charges. On June 9 a federal grand jury indicted Purinton on hate crime charges. A March affidavit indicated that Madasani said Purinton asked if their "status was legal" before he fired on them. The federal indictment said he shot the duo because of their "actual and perceived" race, color, religion and national origin, and committed the crimes after premeditation and planning, attempted to kill more than one person, and created a grave risk of death to others at the scene. He was also charged with firearms offenses. He was a Navy veteran and regular at Austin's. He was held in Johnson County, Kansas on $2 million bond. He was assigned public defender Michael McColloch. Grillot, hospitalized for ten days, received a $100,000 check from the Consulate General of India in Houston to buy a new home.

**February 27:** *CNN* reported that a fifth tranche of 16 phoned bomb threats was made against Jewish community centers and day schools in twelve states: Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Two days earlier, between 75 and 100 tombstones were overturned and damaged during the night at the Mount Carmel Cemetery in the Wissinoming neighborhood of Philadelphia. Swastikas were etched into five cars in Miami Beach.

**March 3:** *CNN* and the *Washington Post* reported that the FBI in St. Louis arrested former journalist Juan Thompson, 31, for making eight of the 122 threats against Jewish Community Centers and other institutions in an attempt to intimidate his ex-girlfriend, a social worker. He was accused of cyberstalking an individual in New York and e-mailing and phoning threats to the Anti-Defamation League and other Jewish institutions. He had been fired in 2016 from *The Intercept* for fabricating stories. The criminal complaint said he began making the threats on January 28, emailing the Jewish History Museum in New York from a spoofed account to make it appear that it was from an ex-girlfriend, "Juan Thompson put 2 bombs in the History Museum set to go off Sunday." He later sent threats to a Jewish school in Farmington Hills, Michigan and to a school and community center in Manhattan. In later e-mailed and phoned threats, he left her name. The Council on American-Islamic Relations received an e-mail saying she left a bomb in a Dallas Jewish center. Thompson, an African-American, tweeted, "Know any good lawyers? Need to stop this nasty/racist #whitegirl I dated who sent a bomb threat in my name." He tweeted the Secret Service, "I'm been tormented by an anti–Semite. She sent an antijewish bomb threat in my name. Help."

**March 4:** *ABC News* reported that prosecutors charged Elvis Redzepagic, 26, a suburban Commack, Long Island resident and U.S. citizen who reportedly traveled to the Middle East to try to join ISIS or another jihadi group in Syria, with attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization. He got as far as Turkey in 2015 and Jordan in 2016, making it to the Syrian border. He told authorities who arrested him on February 2 on an unrelated charge that he was ready to strap on a bomb to sacrifice himself for jihad. "I'm going to leave this country, and I'm going to come back with an Army—Islam is coming." according to a federal court complaint unsealed Saturday. He appeared in a Brooklyn federal court on March 4 and was ordered held without bail. He was represented by attorney Mildred Whalen. He said he became a devout Muslim while in Montenegro, and believed that a cousin was an ISIS or Nusra Front battalion commander in Syria.

**March 4:** The *Seattle Times* reported that a stocky, 6-foot-tall masked white gunman walked up to a Sikh, 39, who was working on his car in his driveway in Kent, Washington, said "Go back to your own country" and shot him in the arm at about 8 p.m. The gunman fled.

**March 6:** *CNN* reported that four Atlanta-area mosques had received death threats in recent weeks. Two Alabama mosques received e-threats two weeks earlier. On February 24, Greenview Madani Center in Lawrenceville, Georgia, received a mailed, handwritten letter saying, "Death is waiting for you and your kind" and included a hand-drawn picture of someone being beheaded. Three other mosques, including al-Farooq Masjid, in and around Atlanta received a threatening email February 18 entitled, "YOUR ONE WARNING" and said, in part, "PLAN TO RUN OR DIE."

**March 6–7:** *CNN* reported that bomb threats were made on two days against Jewish schools and institutions in eight states, Washington, D.C., and Toronto, including the New York, Boston, Atlanta and Washington offices of the Anti-Defamation League. Among the facilities that had been threatened were six JCCs and three day schools in Oregon, Wisconsin, Illinois, New York, Maryland, Florida, and Toronto, including the David Posnack Jewish Community Center and David Posnack Jewish Day School in Davie, Florida. By March 6, at least 121 threats had been made.

All 100 U.S. Senators sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, Attorney General Jeff Sessions and FBI Director James B. Comey, asking them to do more against the threats, noting, "We write to underscore the need for swift action with regard to the deeply troubling series of anonymous bomb threats made against Jewish Community Centers (JCCs), Jewish day schools, synagogues and other buildings affiliated with Jewish organizations or institutions across the country."

**March 10:** The *Washington Examiner* reported that an intruder hopped the fence near the South Portico entrance on the back side of the White House at 11:38 p.m. He walked toward the building for 200 yards and hid behind a pillar before he was spotted and apprehended near the South Portico entrance by the Secret Service. President Trump was at the White House. Jonathan Tuan-Anh Tran, 26, said he was a friend of the President and had an appointment. His mother said he was disturbed. The suspect had a California driver's license. He was carrying two cans of Mace and a letter to President Trump about "Russian hackers." D.C. Superior Court Judge Jennifer DiToro ordered Tran detained on charges of entering restricted grounds while carrying a dangerous weapon. He faced ten years in jail. The charges were upgraded from his initial arrest for unlawful entry. His court-appointed attorney was Gregg D. Baron. Tran had no prior criminal record and lived in Milpitas, outside San Jose. Surveillance video showed Tran jumping a fence near the Treasury Building on East Executive Avenue. Judge DiToro released Tran on his own recognizance under certain conditions on March 13. He was to be fitted with a GPS tracking device, remain within 100 miles of his home, stay away from the White House, remain in the country and travel to Washington only for court appearances and attorney meetings. He was to comply with a mental health evaluation and could not have guns or other weapons. *CNN* reported on March 17 that the Secret Service acknowledged that Tran was on the grounds for more than 15 minutes, tripping several sensors, before being captured. House Oversight Chairman Jason Chaffetz said that Tran rattled a door handle at the South Portico entrance to the White House, but did not get inside.

**March 16:** *Military Times* reported that a jury in a federal court in Brooklyn convicted admitted al-Qaeda fighter and Saudi-born Nigerien citizen Ibrahim Suleiman Adnan Harun, 46, on federal terrorism charges for participating in a firefight in Afghanistan that killed two U.S. servicemen. Italy extradited Harun to the U.S. in 2012. Prosecutors said that while in Italian custody, he confessed that he threw a grenade and shot at an American military unit in a 2003 ambush that killed Army Private Jerod Dennis, of Antlers, Oklahoma, and Air Force Airman Ray Losano, of Del Rio, Texas. Harun later masterminded a failed plot to bomb a U.S. embassy in Nigeria. Harun claimed he was a "warrior" who should face a military tribunal rather than a civilian court prosecution. He refused to attend his trial. Harun faced a possible life term at sentencing on June 22, 2017.

**March 20:** Timothy Caughman, 66, a black man, was gashed by a two-foot sword by James Harris Jackson, 28, a white man from Baltimore, in front of a rooming house in New York City's Garment District. Caughman collapsed at a police station and died at a hospital. Jackson turned himself in at a police station. He was armed with two knives and threw the sword into a garbage bin in Washington Square Park. Police said it was a hate crime. Jackson was charged with murder as terrorism. Authorities said Jackson wanted to kill as many African-Americans as possible, and considered this a trial run. He was represented by attorney Sam Talkin.

Caughman's father had been a pastor at the Mount Zion Baptist Church in South Jamaica, Queens, New York City.

Jackson served in the Army from 2009–2012 as an intelligence analyst, deploying to Afghanistan in 2010–2011.

**March 31:** *NPR* reported that the FBI arrested Zakariya Abdin, 18, of Ladson, South Carolina, as he was boarding a plane at Charleston International Airport to fly to Iraq to join ISIS. He was charged with attempting to provide material support to a terrorist group. He appeared in federal court in Charleston. Assistant U.S. Public Defender Cody Groeber was assigned to represent Abdin.

**April 19:** The *Washington Post* reported that Terrence J. McNeil, 24, of Akron, Ohio, pleaded guilty to five counts of solicitation to commit a crime of violence and five counts of making threatening interstate communications involving his call to kill military personnel. Acting assistant attorney general Mary B. McCord said McNeil "disseminated ISIL's violent rhetoric, circulated U.S. military personnel information, and explicitly called for the killing of American service members in their homes and communities." McNeil was arrested on November 12, 2015. In September 2015, using a *Tumblr* account, he reposted a file with the banner "Islamic State

Hacking Division," followed by "Target: United States Military" and "Leak: Addresses of 100 U.S. Military Personnel." In one file, he said, "O Brothers in America, know that the jihad against the crusaders is not limited to the lands of the [caliphate], it is a worldwide jihad and their war is not just a war against the Islamic State, it is a war against Islam…. Now we have made it easy for you by giving you addresses, all you need to do is take the final step…. Kill them in their own lands, behead them in their own homes, stab them to death as they walk their streets thinking that they are safe … and kill them wherever you find them." Sentencing was set for August 2. Under his plea agreement, he faced between 15 and 20 years in prison.

**May 1:** *CNN* reported that an FBI translator, Daniela Greene, 38, traveled to Syria in 2014 and married Denis Cuspert, alias Deso Dogg, alias Abu Talha al-Almani, a German rapper turned ISIS propagandist/online recruiter she had been assigned to investigate. She returned to the U.S., was arrested, agreed to cooperate with authorities, pleaded guilty to making false statements involving international terrorism, and was sentenced to two years in federal prison. She was released in the summer of 2016. She began working as a hostess in a hotel lounge. She was represented by former assistant federal public defender Shawn Moore. She was born in Czechoslovakia and raised for a time in Germany. She married a U.S. soldier and moved to the United States. She attended Cameron University in Oklahoma where she was on the dean's list. She earned a Master's Degree in history from Clemson University, writing a thesis on racial motivations for French collaboration during the Second World War. She began work for the FBI as a contract linguist in 2011. She was assigned to the bureau's Detroit office in January 2014, working German-language cases.

Cuspert converted to Islam in 2010 after a car accident. In 2011, he posted on *Facebook* a fake video of U.S. soldiers raping a Muslim woman, which spurred a terrorist attack on the Frankfurt airport in which two U.S. airmen died and two were wounded, according to the *New York Times*. In 2012, he left Germany, reportedly spending time in Egypt and Libya. In 2013, he went to Syria. In April 2014, he released a video declaring his allegiance to ISIS and Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The Pentagon said he died in an air strike near Raqqa, Syria in October 2015, but on August 3, 2016, said he survived.

On June 11, 2014, Greene filled out a Report of Foreign Travel form. She deemed her travel on the form as "Vacation/Personal," claiming she was going to visit her parents in Munich, Germany. She boarded an international flight on June 23, 2014, on a one-way ticket to Istanbul, Turkey, where she had reservations at the Erguvan Hotel. From there she traveled to Gaziantep, then crossed into Syria. Once there, although still married to the American, she married Cuspert. Prosecutors obtained a warrant for her arrest on August 1, 2014. She returned to the U.S. and was arrested on August 8, 2014. In December 2014, she pleaded guilty. She was released from prison on August 4, 2016, after serving nearly two years.

**May 11:** U.S. District Judge Nicholas Garaufis in Brooklyn ordered Bryant Neal Vinas, alias Bashir the American, 34, to time served as credit for becoming an informant against al-Qaeda. He had moved to Pakistan and planned with senior al-Qaeda members on how to attack the Long Island Railroad. Vinas, of Patchogue, New York, pleaded guilty in 2009 to charges of trying to kill U.S. soldiers and provide support to al-Qaeda. Pakistan captured him in 2008 and extradited him to the U.S. Vinas was to spend another 90 days in jail.

**May 11:** The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. Department of the Treasury added three members of Jamaat ul Dawa al-Quran (JDQ) jihadi group based in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and JDQ's Welfare and Development Organization, to its list of specially designated global terrorists. They were Hayat Ullah Ghulam Muhammad, Ali Muhammad Abu Turab, and Inayat ur Rahman. They provided support and funds to the Taliban, Lashkar-e-Taiba, al-Qaeda, and ISIS.

Treasury said Hayat Ullah Ghulam Muhammad, alias Haji Hayatullah, was "a senior JDQ leader" who also worked for Lashkar-e-Taiba, and provided "material and financial support to the Taliban, al Qaeda, ISIS [Islamic State], and ISIS—Khorasan." He had earlier supported al-Qaeda and the Taliban, but apparently moved to ISIS since its founding in 2014. He swore bayat to erstwhile Taliban leader Mullah Omar. Since 2011, he "provided material and financial support to al-Qaeda militants, members, and senior leaders," and has been linked to Nayf Salam Muhammad Ujaym al-Hababi, alias Farouq al-Qahtani, who was killed in a U.S. airstrike in Kunar Province in October 2016. Treasury added that in 2013, Haji Hayatullah "served as a commander for LT [Lashkar-e-Taiba] in Afghanistan, and as of 2013, Haji Hayatullah oversaw the training of LT operatives." By 2014, he helped establish ISIS-Khorasan Province in Afghanistan and Pakistan, providing recruits, weapons and cash. He also "supported ISIS's recruitment and funding of suicide bombers and their travel to Syria and Iraq."

Treasury identified Ali Muhammad Abu Turab as "a JDQ facilitator working to provide thousands of dollars to Pakistan-based JDQ leadership, including Inayat ur Rahman." He supported al-Qaeda-linked Taliban leader Fazeel-a-Tul Shaykh Abu Mohammed Ameen al-Peshwari, alias Mohammed Aminullah. He helped raise money in the Gulf and supported "the

movement of tens of thousands of dollars from the Gulf to Pakistan." He also helped Lashkar-e-Taiba fundraise in the Gulf states and "also facilitated the establishment of LT training camps in collaboration with" U.S.-designated terrorist Abdul Aziz Nuristani.

Treasury called Inayat ur Rahman "a long-time leader of JDQ" who worked for Haji Hayatullah and as of 2015 "managed JDQ's day-to-day operations." He provided support for both Lahskar-e-Taiba and the Taliban, and served as "a military leader in the Taliban leadership council in Peshawar, Pakistan." "In July 2012, along with Shaykh Aminullah, Abdul Aziz Nuristani, and other militants, Inayat ur Rahman came to an agreement with al-Qaeda and LT members to provide weapons, ammunition, and financial support to the Taliban and discussed how to improve Taliban tactics against Coalition forces." He provided "financial support, weapons, and transportation" to Lashkar-e-Taiba and helped establish three "training centers." Additionally, he also recruited madrassa students in Peshawar to join Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Treasury said Rahman ran JDQ's Welfare and Development Organization (WDO), using the charitable front to raise money for jihadist activities. "WDO ostensibly collects money for charity, but in reality funds insurgent activities…. WDO was used to collect intelligence and conduct logistical work in support of Afghan militant operations. For a number of years, Afghan insurgents have received regular funding through WDO from organizations, including NGOs, in Gulf countries."

**May 15:** *CNN* reported that the Department of Homeland Security's National Terrorism Advisory System renewed for the fourth time a December 2015 bulletin that warned of the dangers posed by homegrown terrorists and called the threat environment in the country one of the "most serious" since the 9/11 attacks. "We face one of the most serious terror threat environments since the 9/11 attacks as foreign terrorist organizations continue to exploit the Internet to inspire, enable, or direct individuals already here in the homeland to commit terrorist acts…. Terrorist groups are urging recruits to adopt easy-to-use tools to target public places and events…. Specific attack tactics have included the use of vehicle ramming, small arms, straight-edged blades or knives, and homemade explosives, as well as other acts such as taking hostages." The bulletin mentioned terrorists "attempting to travel to the United States on visas, from visa-waiver countries, with the aim of attacking the homeland or inciting others within our borders to conduct attack."

**May 17:** Prisoner release in Puerto Rico; *see* listing in Latin America and Caribbean chapter.

**May 19:** Tampa police said that Devon Arthurs, 18, a former neo–Nazi who converted to Islam, shot to death two roommates, Jeremy Himmelman, 22 and Andrew Oneschuk, 18, for "disrespecting" his faith. On May 19, Florida-born Arthurs briefly held three people at gunpoint at Tampa's Green Planet Smoke Shop at 5:30 p.m. before surrendering to police. He told police that people in an apartment in an upscale complex in north Tampa across the street were "definitely dead." Police found a fourth roommate, Brandon Russell, 21, "crying and … visibly upset." Arthurs told officers that "all of them had been friends with a common neo–Nazi belief" until his conversion. Police found bomb-making equipment in the garage, including fuses and a cooler containing a "white cake-like substance" identified as the explosive hexamethylene triperoxide diamine (HMTD), according to the FBI. Police searching Russell's bedroom found firearms, ammunition and "Nazi/white supremacist propaganda," including a framed picture of Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh on the dresser. McVeigh was sentenced to death for the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Russell admitting making the HMTD and owning the fuses. He claimed that he previously belonged to an engineering club at the University of South Florida and used the HMTD to "boost homemade rockets and send balloons into the atmosphere for testing." Russell admitted membership in the "Atom Waffen" (German for "atomic weapon"). The *Miami Herald* reported that the FBI arrested Russell in Key Largo for possession of an unregistered destructive device and the unlawful storage of explosive material. Arthurs was held without bail at the Hillsborough County Jail on two counts of first-degree murder, two counts of aggravated assault and three counts of armed kidnapping.

**May 20:** *Reuters* reported on May 23 that police had charged Sean Christopher Urbanski, 22, of Severna Park, Maryland, a white University of Maryland student, with the May 20 on-campus stabbing death of black Army Second Lieutenant Richard Collins III, 23, who was commissioned on May 18. The FBI was investigating the case as a possible hate crime. Police said Urbanski approached Collins and two friends on a campus sidewalk and told Collins, "Step left, step left if you know what's good for you." Collins said, "no" and was stabbed in the chest. Collins was scheduled to graduate from Maryland's Bowie State University on May 23. Urbanski was part of the Alt-Reich *Facebook* group, which ran racially and sexually charged material. Urbanski was held on charges of second-degree murder and first-degree assault.

**May 26:** Jeremy Joseph Christian, 35, reportedly ranted and raved and shouted anti–Muslim insults at two young women, one wearing a hijab, then stabbed to death two men and injured another who attempted to intervene on an eastbound light-rail MAX train in east Portland, Oregon's Hollywood Transit Station

in the early afternoon. Police identified the dead as Army veteran Ricky John Best, 53, of Happy Valley, Oregon, and Taliesin Myrddin Namkai Meche, 23, of southeast Portland. Micah David-Cole Fletcher, 21, of southeast Portland, was hospitalized. Christian fled, but was soon arrested by police, who held him without bail on two counts of aggravated murder, one count of attempted murder, two counts of intimidation in the second degree and one count of possession of a restricted weapon as a felon. The women were Destinee Mangum, 16, and her 17-year-old Muslim friend.

The *Portland Mercury* reported that Christian was a "known right wing extremist and white supremacist" who had attempted to assault protesters at local demonstrations in the past. On April 29, he arrived at a "March for Free Speech" draped in an American flag and carrying a baseball bat. He yelled to the crowd that he was a "nihilist," shouted the n-word at people and gave Nazi salutes, according to the *Mercury*. The *Southern Poverty Law Center* said he posted on *Facebook* that he supported creating a "White homeland" in the Pacific Northwest and said on April 9 that he had "just Challenged Ben Ferencz (Last Living Nuremberg Persecutor) to a Debate in the Hague with Putin as our judge. I will defend the Nazis and he will defend the AshkeNAZIs." On April 19, he praised Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, saying, "May all the Gods Bless Timothy McVeigh a TRUE PATRIOT!!!" On April 28, he posted a picture of Confederate statues being removed, adding, "If we're removing statues because of the Civil War, We should be removing mosques because of 9/11." He call for "all my Portland Peeps" to attend a free speech rally in Portland, where "I will be there Demasking anyone with a mask. I will attend in Lizard King Regalia as a Political Nihilist to Provoke both Sides and attempt to engage anyone in a true Philosophy and Political Discussion. This Is what I have done for the last 6 years in front of Powell's Books Downtown. I take the Role of International Patriot and Revolutionary VERY SERIOUS BUT YOU ALL KNOW I AM THE MOST LAID BACK DUDE IN THE WORLD— Until you cross that line then nothing will stop our COME TO JESUS TALK FRIEND OR FOE." Court records indicated that he had been imprisoned for first-degree robbery and second-degree kidnaping for a crime committed 15 years earlier; theft and weapons charges were dismissed in 2010.

The attack occurred on the first day of Ramadan.

At his arraignment on May 30, Christian shouted "You call it terrorism. I call it patriotism! … You've got no safe place! … Death to the enemies of America!" He did not enter a plea to aggravated murder and other charges. Among his court-appointed public defenders was Gregory Scholl.

**June 7:** The *Washington Post* reported that Mohamad Khweis, 27, of Alexandria, Virginia, was found guilty in federal court in Alexandria of providing and conspiring to provide material support to a terrorist group, along with firearm possession in connection with those crimes. Sentencing was scheduled for October 13. In 2015 he quit his job as a Metro Access bus driver and traveled to ISIS territory. Kurdish forces captured him in Irbil, Iraq in March 2016. He had traveled to Syria undetected, and had no known record of extremism. He was represented by defense attorney John Zwerling. Khweis testified that he was forced from safe house to safe house during his ten weeks in ISIS territory.

**June 14:** The *Washington Post* reported that a gunman fired a semiautomatic rifle during a 7:30 a.m. baseball practice at the Eugene Simpson Stadium Park in the 400 block of East Monroe Street in Alexandria, Virginia involving Republican members of Congress, injuring five people, including

- Steve Scalise, 51, majority whip, who was critically injured and required several surgeries at MedStar Washington Hospital Center.
- Zack Barth, legislative correspondent for Texas Representative Roger Williams.
- Capitol Hill police agent David Bailey, who had been with the police service for nine years after being an administrator at the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Falls Church, Virginia, from 2005 to 2008.
- Capitol Hill police agent Crystal Griner, who was shot in an ankle. She had played basketball for Hood College in 2003, was named rookie of the year, and graduated in 2006, according to Heavy.com. She was a biology major and a member of the National Honor Society at Mount Hebron High School. She married Tiffany Dyer in 2015.
- Tysons Foods lobbyist Matt Mika, who sometimes practices with the team. Mika, also in critical condition, underwent surgery at George Washington University for multiple gunshot wounds. He was released from the hospital on June 24.

Representative Mo Brooks (R–Ala.) said 50 to 100 shots were fired.

President Trump announced later in the morning that the shooter had died, shot to death by Scalise's Capitol Police security detail. The President said, "Congressman Scalise is a friend, and a very good friend. He's a patriot. And he's a fighter. He will recover from this assault—and Steve, I want you to know that you have the prayers not only of the entire city behind you, but of an entire nation, and frankly the entire world. America is praying for you and America is praying for all of the victims of this terrible shooting."

The *Washington Post* reported that shooter James Hodgkinson, 66, of Belleville, Illinois, owned a home

inspection business, although his home inspection license expired in November 2016. He was charged in April 2006 with battery and aiding damage to a motor vehicle in St. Clair County, Illinois; the charges were dismissed. *CNN* reported that he had volunteered for Bernie Sanders's presidential campaign, and posted hateful comments on *Facebook* directed at conservatives and President Donald Trump such as "Trump is a Traitor. Trump Has Destroyed Our Democracy. It's Time to Destroy Trump & Co." and "Republicans are the Taliban of the USA." He was married. He started JTH Inspections in 1994 but quit on New Year's Eve 2016. He had lived out of his van in the area since March. He was a member of the *Facebook* groups *The Road to Hell Is Paved with Republicans* and *Terminate the Republican Party*.

About 20 Republican Members of Congress were practicing for the next day's annual Congressional baseball game pitting Democratic and Republican teams against one another. The game dates back to 1909. Capitol Hill police agent David Bailey threw the first pitch. The Democrats won 11–2, before a crowd of 25,000, and sent the trophy to Scalise's office. Crystal Griner threw out the first pitch at the Congressional Women's Softball Game on June 21.

*CNN* reported on June 16 that police found on the shooter a list of names, including some Republican members of Congress, including Representative Mo Brooks. The FBI announced on June 21 that the list contained names of six Representatives. *The Washington Post* reported that the gunmen had a local storage locker with more than 200 rounds of ammunition that he visited 43 times between April and June, usually between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m.

**June 18:** Muslim teen Nabra Hassanen, 17, was walking to morning prayers in Sterling, Virginia, with 15 friends when a motorist jumped out of his car and beat her to death with a baseball bat. The driver had exchanged words with one of the males in the group. Police discovered her body in a pond that afternoon and said the incident was road rage, not a hate crime. Some 5,000 people attended her funeral at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society Center, and disagreed with the police call. Darwin Martinez Torres, 22, was held for second-degree murder.

**June 21:** Quebec, Canada resident Amor Ftouhi, 49, knifed airport police Lieutenant Jeff Neville in the neck at 10 a.m. in Flint, Michigan's Bishop International Airport before he was apprehended. The FBI and local police were investigating the case as a possible act of terrorism. Ftouhi was charged with committing an act of violence at an airport. It appeared that Ftouhi had traveled between the U.S. and Canada multiple times and had come to Flint from New York. A witness said the attacker yelled "Allahu Akbar" and "you have killed people in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan and we are all going to die" before striking. Neville had worked in the Genesee County sheriff's office as a prison guard, on road patrol, and as a court officer, retiring as a lieutenant. Ftouhi worked as a part-time caretaker at the Montreal apartment building where he lived with his wife and children. He had earlier studied to sell insurance. He was unsuccessful in buying a gun in the U.S., but bought a knife. He held Canadian and Tunisian citizenship. The family lived in the Villeray-St. Michel-Parc Extension borough. He legally entered the U.S. at Champlain, New York on June 16 and was in Michigan by June 18.

**June 25:** Several Ohio government websites, including that of Governor John Kasich (R), first lady Karen Kasich, and the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, plus the site of Howard County, Maryland, and the official website for Brookhaven, New York, were hacked and defaced with an anti–President Trump, pro–ISIS message: "You will be held accountable Trump, you and all your people for every drop of blood flowing in Muslim countries." The homepages were overwritten by a black screen that featured brief statements that ended with "I love Islamic State." The hackers called themselves "System Dz," which had taken credit for breaches of local government websites over weekends for more than two years. On June 27, *CNN* reported that the Washington State Department of Health had also been attacked.

**July 3:** *CNN* reported that Hillsboro Police Lieutenant Henry Reimann said police in Portland, Oregon fatally shot a gunman who hopped a fence and tried to steal a helicopter from a private air hangar at an airport near Portland. The helicopter had its engine running and a pilot and student pilot inside. The gunman fired into a field and ordered the duo out of the craft. A responding police officer yelled at the suspect, who jumped the fence and ran into a field. A second Hillsboro officer fatally shot the man in the field.

**July 6:** Federal authorities arrested Shivan Patel, 27, of Williamsburg, Virginia, who prosecutors said told an undercover agent that he wanted to join a "Muslim army" to commit jihad and tried to join the U.S. military. He was charged with hiding information from U.S. Army and Air Force recruiters, not informing them of his foreign travel. He had visited China and Jordan, the latter of which deported him to the U.S.

The *Long War Journal* reported that the Department of Justice announced that Aaron Travis Daniels, alias Harun Muhammad, alias Abu Yusef, 20, from Columbus, Ohio, had "pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS)." He faced 20 years in prison. He was arrested on November 7, 2016, at an airport in Columbus, Ohio before he could fly to Trinidad, en route to Libya, where he hoped to join IS. DOJ said he communicated with Sudanese ISIS operative

Abu Isa al-Amriki, alias Abu Sa'ad al-Sudani, who acted as a "recruiter and external attack planner." DOJ said Daniels said that al-Amriki "suggested" he go to Libya "to support jihad." Daniels "wired money to an intermediary for Abu Isa al-Amriki." DOJ earlier said he sent $250 to an ISIS "operative" in January 2016. Al-Amriki and his wife, Australian national Umm Isa Amriki, died in an airstrike near al-Bab, Syria on April 22, 2016. Pentagon Press Secretary Peter Cook said al-Amriki "was involved in planning attacks against the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom…. Both al Sudani and his wife were active in recruiting foreign fighters in efforts to inspire attacks against Western interests."

**July 8:** The FBI concluded a year-long investigation by arresting active-duty Sergeant First Class Ikaika Kang, 34, on charges of seeking to provide training and military secrets to ISIS. Kang believed he was dealing with ISIS operatives who were undercover agents or confidential informants. The FBI said he copied secret military documents in 2015 to give to ISIS and made combat training videos to share with ISIS; FBI SAC/Hawaii Paul Delacourt said no documents got to ISIS. The Army asked the FBI to investigate Kang's suspected radicalization in 2016. Prosecutors said he helped purchase a $1,400 drone and Go-Pro camera to use in getting ISIS gunmen away from U.S. tanks, pledged allegiance to ISIS caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and wanted to use his rifle to "kill a bunch of people." The FBI affidavit said that Kang tried to help ISIS "by providing both classified military documents, and other sensitive but unclassified military documents, to people he believed would pass the documents to ISIS. Kang did so with the intention that the documents would assist ISIS, including with fighting and military tactics. Additionally, Kang contributed to the purchase of a drone with the intention that it would be provided to, and used by, ISIS during fighting." In private talks with a confidential informant, he praised the Orlando Pulse nightclub shooting and Adolf Hitler.

He lived in the Honolulu suburb of Waipahu. He served at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, working as an air traffic controller based at Wheeler Army Airfield. He enlisted in the Army in December 2001. He served in South Korea from 2002 to 2003. The Army revoked his clearance in 2012 for making pro–ISIS statements while at work and on-post and threatening to harm or kill service members. His clearance was re-instated in 2013. *NPR* reported that he competed in mixed martial arts and was a trainer in MMA for the military in 2013. *AP* reported that his 2013 bunkmate, Dustin Lyles, said that Kang believed the moon landing was faked and that the 9/11 attacks were an inside job by the U.S. government.

Kang made an initial appearance in federal court in Honolulu on July 10, 2017. Kang was represented by court-appointed attorney Birney Bervar, who suggested Kang might suffer from service-related mental health issues. Kang's father told Honolulu television station *KHON* and the *Star-Advertiser* newspaper that he worried that his son had PTSD following tours in Iraq from March 2010 to February 2011 and Afghanistan from July 2013 to April 2014. A grand jury indicted him in mid–July 2017 on four counts of attempting to provide material support to ISIS. On July 24 he pleaded not guilty. Trial was set for September. Bervar sought a mental health evaluation.

**July 21:** Federal prosecutors charged Amer Sinan Alhaggagi, 22, of California, with attempting to support terrorism by allegedly using social media to promote ISIS and offering to join the organization. Prosecutors said he "went so far as to meet with undercover agents on multiple occasions to plan a potential terrorist attack." His defense lawyer told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that it was all idle talk in late-night Internet chat rooms.

**August 2:** *Military Times* reported that Terrence McNeil, 24, of Ohio was sentenced to 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of threatening the beheading of U.S. military members online on behalf of ISIS. He pleaded guilty earlier to five counts of solicitation to commit a crime of violence and five counts of making threatening interstate communications. Five other charges were dismissed. McNeil posted on his *Tumblr* page in September 2015 the names and addresses of military personnel. He was represented by attorney Nathan Ray, who said his client "got in over his head."

**August 5:** *CNN, New York Times,* and *AP* reported that an explosion went off at 5 a.m. at the Dar al-Farooq Islamic Center (mosque) in Bloomington, Minnesota, causing no injuries among those gathering for morning prayers. Police believed a "destructive device" was involved. Authorities suggested someone threw a device into the window of the imam's office. A worshipper saw a pickup truck speeding away. The *Star Tribune* reported that the mosque had recently received threats.

**August 12:** The *Washington Post, CNN,* and *Los Angeles Times* reported that in the morning, the FBI arrested Jerry Drake Varnell, 23, of Oklahoma on charges that he tried to detonate what he thought was a 1,000-pound bomb, acting out of a hatred for the U.S. government and in admiration of 1995 Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh. He had driven what he believed was a stolen cargo van outside a BancFirst building in Oklahoma City. He was charged with attempted destruction of a building by means of an explosive. He told an undercover agent that he believed in the "Three Percenter" ideology—a form of anti-government activism that pledges

resistance against the government on the belief that it has infringed on the Constitution. These individuals incorrectly believe that only 3 percent of the colonial population participated in the American Revolution. He allegedly discussed potential targets, including the Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building in Washington, D.C., an IRS building in Maryland and a Bank of America data center in Texas. Prosecutors said Varnell wanted to minimize deaths or casualties, possibly by detonating the device at night. However, on June 26, Varnell said, "You got to break a couple of eggs to make an omelet…. That's why people don't do this s— because, you know, you got to be able to overcome that little reality there … somehow cripple the government. Something that sends a message that says, 'You are a target.'" The *Los Angeles Times* said he wanted to start a militia group. Varnell thought he was dealing with two fellow anti-government sympathizers who were instead a confidential informant and an undercover FBI agent. He watched the building of the fake bomb, then drove the vehicle containing the device to an alley adjacent to the bank building and parked it there. After midnight, he twice attempted to detonate the bomb remotely. A group called "III% United Patriots" said Varnell joined in November 2016, but they dropped him from the membership rolls as soon as they heard of Monday's charges. III% spokesman Dylan Hunter said, "We don't want anything to do with him…. We condemn any acts of terrorism. We condemn Timothy McVeigh, we condemn what happened in Charlottesville. What we want to do is support the Constitution of the United States of America." He faced a 20-year sentence.

**August 12:** During a Unite the Right demonstration by Nazis, KKK members, white supremacists and white nationalists against the planned removal of a statue of Robert E. Lee in Charlottesville, Virginia, a driver crashed his silver 2010 Dodge Challenger (with Ohio license plate GVF 1111, according to the *Huffington Post*) into a group of counterdemonstrators, then drove backwards at a high rate of speed, killing Heather Danielle Heyer, 32, a paralegal from Greene County, Virginia, and injuring 19 people, five critically. *NBC News* reported that ROTC student Natalie Romero, 20, suffered a fractured skull.

Virginia's governor declared a state of emergency.

The FBI field office in Richmond and the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Western District of Virginia opened a civil rights investigation. James Alex Fields, Jr., 20, of Maumee, Ohio, was arrested and charged with second degree murder, three counts of malicious wounding, and one count of hit-and-run attended failure to stop with injury. He had spouted Nazi thoughts when he attended Randall K. Cooper High School in Kentucky. Vanguard America, the self-described Face of American Fascism, denied involvement, although he had posed with group members. Fields was in the U.S. Army for four months in 2015 but discharged early. A former high school teacher said Fields initially was turned down by the Army for psychiatric reasons. His disabled mother, Samantha Bloom, had four times called 911 to report his threats against and physical abuse of her. He had worked for Securitas Security Services, which fired him after the attack.

Among the groups marching were the Identity Evropa, the Southern nationalist League of the South, the National Socialist Movement, the Traditionalist Workers Party, and the Fraternal Order of Alt Knights.

President Trump initially said, "The hate and the division must stop and must stop right now…. We condemn in the strongest possible terms this egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence on many sides. On many sides." The White House scrambled to explain why white supremacists were not specifically criticized. The President said on August 14, "Racism is evil, and those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including the KKK, neo–Nazis, white supremacists and other hate groups."

A Bell 407 helicopter crash at 5 p.m. in a nearby wooded area on Old Farm Road in Albemarle County killed two Virginia state police troopers doing surveillance work during the white nationalist rally.

H. Jay Cullen, 48, of Midlothian, Virginia, commander of the State Police Aviation Unit since February, spent several years flying Virginia's governor. Cullen graduated from the Virginia State Police Academy in May 1994 and joined the Virginia State Police Aviation Unit in 1999. He left behind a wife and two sons.

Berke M.M. Bates, of Quinton, Virginia, who would have turned 41 the next day, was a new helicopter pilot, having served on the governor's executive protection unit. He transferred to the aviation unit in July. Bates came from Florida's highway patrol and rescuing a young girl who had been kidnapped. Bates met his wife, Amanda, in Florida. They were married in Richmond and have twin 11-year-olds, a boy and a girl. He played hockey at the University of Tennessee and in minor leagues.

On December 14 *UPI* and *WHIO-TV* reported that federal prosecutors charged James Alex Fields, Jr., with first-degree murder, one felony count of hit and run and five felony counts of aggravated malicious wounding. He earlier faced charges of second-degree murder. He was represented by attorney Denise Lundsford.

**August 15:** The *Washington Post* reported that Mohamed Yousef Elshinawy, 32, of Edgewood, Maryland, accused of accepting nearly $9,000 from foreign entities to finance a terrorist attack in the United States, pleaded guilty to conspiring to provide

material support to ISIS, collection of terrorism financing, and making false statements in a terrorism matter by pledging allegiance to the group and receiving cash from foreign companies run by people looking to develop weaponized drones. He faced 48 years in prison.

Elshinawy, a U.S. citizen of Egyptian descent, had kept in touch with a childhood friend who was an ISIS member, according to the court. In social media conversations in 2015, he asked his friend to tell ISIS leaders that he was one of their soldiers and committed to "violent jihad." Prosecutors said that from March to June 2015, companies based in the UK and Bangladesh sent Elshinawy cash to carry out an attack in the United States. The money was disguised in a bid to evade government detection, such as looking like a purchase of printers. The government said he asked his friend how to obtain an explosive device and silencer and tried to recruit his brother to join ISIS. Upon arrest, he lied to the FBI about the amount of money he received, saying he planned to scam ISIS out of it.

**September 19:** *Twitter* announced that it had suspended 300,000 accounts globally linked to terrorism.

**September 20:** Google launched a $5 million innovation fund to counter terrorism worldwide. It planned to give an initial grant of $1.3 million to the British counter-extremist Institute of Strategic Dialogue organization. Kent Walker, a Google senior vice president, said, "Over the next two years, this funding will support technology-driven solutions, as well as grassroots efforts like community youth projects that help build communities and promote resistance to radicalization."

**October 1:** The *Washington Post* reported that at 10:05 p.m., Stephen Paddock, 64, fired hundreds of rounds for ten minutes from the 32nd floor two-room suite 32-135 of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas at 22,000 people listening to singer Jason Aldean at the three-day Route 91 Harvest country music festival below, killing 58 people and injuring 489 (originally reported as 527) in the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. Police found 23 weapons, brought in via 13 pieces of luggage, including a dozen assault rifles and several sniper rifles, among them a .223 caliber and a .308 caliber gun, in the hotel room. At 9:59 p.m., he had fired 200 rounds through the hotel room door, injuring security guard Jesus Campos in the leg. The guard was investigating an "open door" alarm at a room on the same floor. *CNN* reported that two rounds hit a fuel tank at McCarran Airport, which did not explode. (Accounts differed on the timing of events. MGM Resorts International said that the shooting began 40 seconds after Paddock shot Campos.)

Paddock's body was found in the two-room suite after it was breached at 11:20 p.m. He had stayed in the room since September 28. He had used a hammer-like device to break two windows, from which he fired down at the crowd.

His brother Eric said Paddock was a multimillionaire real estate developer who had done deals with him but was otherwise distant. He had no prior criminal history. Police said Marilou Danley, 62, an Australian citizen of Filipina extraction, the shooter's "traveling companion," had no knowledge of his plans. She was in the Philippines when the shooting occurred. They had lived together in Mesquite, Nevada and Reno, Nevada. He had also lived in Mesquite, Texas.

He was a retired accountant and a licensed pilot who owned two planes and often visited Las Vegas to gamble at $100 per hand poker and attend concerts. He grew distant from his brother Bruce, who beat him up while they were growing up. (Bruce Paddock was arrested in Los Angeles on October 25 on suspicion of possessing child pornography.) He played varsity tennis for John H. Francis Polytechnic High School, in the Los Angeles suburbs. He attended Cal State Northridge. He was a letter carrier for the Postal Service, an Internal Revenue Service agent and an auditor for the Defense Contract Audit Agency in the late 1970s and 1980s. He had worked for a Lockheed Martin predecessor in 1985–1988. He was twice-divorced. Paddock married Peggy Okamoto in 1985 in California. They divorced in 1990 citing "irreconcilable differences." An ex-wife lives in Los Angeles County, California, and had no contact with him in years. They divorced 27 years earlier after six years of marriage. Another ex-wife lived in the Dallas suburbs. Over the past 20 years, Paddock bought and lived in properties in California, Nevada, Florida and Texas, where neighbors said he lived with his mother. He had a fishing license from Alaska. He would stay in hotels for weeks and months at a time. He claimed he bet $1 million annually. He was worth at least $2 million. He traveled extensively, racking up millions of air miles. Neighbors said he was standoffish and surly.

Police found 18 firearms and thousands of rounds of ammunition in his Mesquite, Nevada home. At another property in Reno, Nevada, investigators recovered five more handguns and two shotguns. Police determined by October 4 that the gunman had 49 firearms in his hotel and two homes.

*New York* magazine and *CNN* reported that the shooter's father was Benjamin Hoskins Paddock, a bank robber who was on the FBI Most Wanted list from June 10, 1969, until May 5, 1977. The FBI wanted poster said he had been "diagnosed as psychopathic, has carried firearms in commission of bank robberies" and "reportedly has suicidal tendencies and should be considered armed and very dangerous."

He had escaped from prison in 1969. Benjamin was captured 1978, when he was running a bingo parlor in Oregon. He died a few years before the attack. Eric Paddock grew up thinking Benjamin had died earlier. He found out otherwise when Patrick went to the Air Force Academy and was told Benjamin was a decorated veteran and still alive.

On July 28, 1960, when Paddock was seven, a neighbor took him swimming so that the boy would not see his father being arrested. Paddock's brother, Eric, said the father did not play a role in their lives.

ISIS claimed credit, although police said the local resident was believed to have acted alone. *Aamaq* said he was one of its "soldiers" and had converted to Islam three years ago. *The Washington Post* reported that on October 5, *al-Naba*, ISIS's weekly newsletter, called Paddock Abu Abdul Barr al-Amriki, who converted to Islam six months earlier.

The dead included

- Hannah Ahlers, 34, originally from Redlands, was a stay-at-home mother of three, aged 3, 11 and 14, who had lived in Beaumont, California, for five years. She was married to Brian Ahlers for 17 years. He said she was "shot in the head while dancing" with him. She was active in moms' groups and their daughter's volleyball team and enjoyed going to the river.
- Heather Warino Alvarado, 35, from Enoch, Utah, was married to Albert Alvarado, a firefighter in Cedar City, Utah. They enjoyed traveling with their three children.
- Dorene Anderson, 49, of Anchorage, Alaska, attended the concert with her husband, John, who worked at the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, and daughters.
- Carrie Barnette, 34, had worked for Disney for ten years. Another Disney cast member, Jessica Milam, was seriously injured.
- Jack Beaton, 54, Jack Beaton of Bakersfield, California, was attending the concert with his wife, Laurie, and their friends. The couple were celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary. His son posted, "He jumped in front of my mom and got shot."
- Steve Berger, 44, a 6-foot-6 former college basketball player from Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, was on a trip to celebrate his 44th birthday with friends in Las Vegas. The father of three children moved to Minnesota ten years ago, working as a financial advisor with EFS Advisors.
- Candice Bowers, a single mother of three who had recently adopted a two-year-old.
- Denise Salmon Burditus, 50, a retired banking professional, mother of two and soon to be a grandmother of five from Martinsburg, West Virginia, attended the festival with husband of 32 years, Tony, who was with her for a Vegas getaway weekend. The couple was dancing together when the shooting began. She died in Tony's arms as they were being taken to a hospital in the back of a truck. She was the former president of the Association of the United States Army sub-chapter in Lacey, Washington, according to Northwest Military.com. She had recently returned to college.
- Sandra Casey, 35, from Redondo Beach, California, taught special education at Manhattan Beach Middle School in California for nine years. *CNN* reported that she and six other school officials attended the concert; her friends were unharmed. In April, she became engaged to Christopher Willemse during their ten-day vacation in New Zealand.
- Andrea Castilla, 28, died in the arms of her younger sister's boyfriend, shot in the head, in the back of his truck.
- Denise Cohen, 58, a grandmother from Carpinteria, California, loved to dance to country music and was dressed in an American flag tank top and cowboy boots. She and her companion, Derrick "Bo" Taylor, had long planned to attend the concert; he also died. She was a property manager in Santa Barbara with two children. She was planning to volunteer at the California Avocado Festival the following weekend. The duo met at a social gathering.
- Austin Davis, 29, a pipefitter from Riverside, California. His girlfriend of nine years, Aubree Hennigan, said he loved softball. He was at the concert with a friend and her family. The friend's father, Tom Day, Jr., was also killed. He was the godfather of his best friend's (Katelyn Hood) baby.
- Thomas Day, Jr., 54, from Riverside, California and semi-retired contractor/estimator with Portrait Construction in Corona, California for 20 years. He loved classic cars and country music. He was with his four children—Whitney, Candice, Kelsey and Nolan—at the concert.
- Christiana Duarte, 21 or 22, lived in Torrance, California and enjoyed singing. She graduated from the University of Arizona in May 2017 with a degree in mass communications and was starting a career in marketing, working as a fan-services associate for the Los Angeles Kings hockey team. She earlier worked for the Los Angeles Rams and Arizona Diamondbacks. She played intramural soccer, softball, and volleyball, and was a member of Sigma Kappa sorority.
- Stacee Rodrigues Etcheber, 50, a hairdresser from Novato, California, was a mother of two who became separated from her husband, Vinnie, an off-duty San Francisco Police officer, during the shooting. He told Stacee to run as he began to render aid to the wounded.
- Brian Fraser, of La Palma, California, was vice president of sales at Greenpath Funding. He

attended the festival with about 20 people, including his wife and children. He coached his children's football and baseball teams and was in the school parents' association. The couple had three children, aged 17, 10, and 4, and an adopted child. Jason Aldean was his favorite country singer, who had begun singing "Dirt Road Anthem" when the shooting began. A friend performed CPR and loaded him into a wheelbarrow to seek medical attention, but Fraser died of his injuries.

- Keri Lynn Galvan, 31, of Thousand Oaks, California, was with her husband at the concert. She left behind three children, two, four, and ten years old. She worked at Mastro's Steakhouse in Thousand Oaks. Her father, Jeff Poole, was the drummer in the band Legs Diamond.
- Dana Gardner, 52, from Grand Terrace, California, a county employee for more than two decades, was the deputy recorder of the San Bernardino County assessor-recorder-clerk's office. Her college-age daughter, Kayla, survived.
- Angela Gomez, 20, graduated from Riverside Polytechnic High School in California in 2015. She acted on stage with the Riverside Children's Theater, was involved in the middle and high school choir, and was a 5'2" cheerleader for the Riverside Poly Cheer and Song team in high school, where she took honors and Advanced Placement courses. She had three siblings but one "twin": her lookalike best friend, Veronika Maldonado, whom she met in eighth grade. They called themselves the Malomez twins. She went to the concert with her high school sweetheart to celebrate her new job as a certified nursing assistant.
- Charleston Hartfield, 34, was a father, an off-duty officer with the Las Vegas Police Department, and a Nevada Army National Guard sergeant first class. He wrote *Memoirs of a Public Servant*. "Coach Chucky" coached for the Henderson Cowboys youth football program.
- Christopher Hazencomb, 44, from Camarillo, California, a Jason Aldean fan, went to the festival with Nikki Torres, who said she and her husband considered Christopher a years-long part of their family. He worked at the Walmart Neighborhood Market in Camarillo.
- Jennifer Topaz Irvine, 42, of San Diego, was a criminal-and-family-law litigator who ran a boutique firm. She earned a black-belt in taekwondo, enjoyed practicing hot yoga, was an avid snowboarder, was a Metallica fan, and aspired to learn indoor rock climbing and to experience sky-diving.
- Nicole Kimura, 38, from Placenteria, California, grew up in Orange County with a tight-knit circle of friends who considered each other's parents their aunts and uncles.
- Jessica Klymchuk, 34, a single mother of four, lived in Valleyview in Alberta, Canada and was an educational assistant, librarian and bus driver for St. Stephen's School in Valleyview, Holy Family Catholic Regional Division.
- Carly Kreibaum, 33, from Sutherland, Iowa, was the mother of two children. She and her two friends became separated at the concert. She was a member of the Sutherland Church of Christ. She painted flowers on the Menagerie flower shop's storefront.
- Rhonda LeRocque, 42, from Tewksbury, Massachusetts, was at her second Harvest Festival with her husband Jason, daughter Aliyah, 6, and Jason's father. They were staying at the Mandalay Bay. She loved Hawaii, Disney, and country music.
- Victor Link, 55, from Shafter and Aliso Viejo, California, traveled across the state with his wife (other reports said fiancé), Lynn, to attend festivals every month. He worked for a mortgage originator business. He said on the firm's website that he was a "tequila quality control tester." He enjoyed travel, snowboarding, golf, cooking, and wine tasting. He and Lynn recently returned from a two-week European trip.
- Jordan McIldoon, 23 or 25, who was visiting Las Vegas from Maple Ridge, British Columbia, died holding the hand of a stranger, Heather Gooze, a bartender at the House of Blues bar at the concert. She felt a squeeze from his fingers, then his hand went loose. She stayed with him for hours. She relayed the news of his death by phone to his long-term girlfriend and his mother. Gooze told *CNN*, "I didn't want Jordan to not have somebody with him. I didn't want him to just be a no-named body. I knew who he was, and now I had an obligation to make sure that everyone knew who he was." His mother told Gooze about his tattoos and his childhood nickname, Blimpy.
- Kelsey Breanne Meadows, 28, a substitute teacher for the Taft Union High School District in California since 2012. She graduated from Taft Union in 2007, then earned a BA from Fresno State University.
- Calla Medig, 28, who lived in Jasper, Alberta, Canada, worked as a waitress at Moxie's restaurant in West Edmonton since September 2015. It was her third year at the festival.
- Sonny Melton, 29, a registered nurse from Big Sandy, Tennessee, who was married to Heather Melton, an orthopedic surgeon at Innovative Orthopedics, whom he met at Henry County Medical Center in Paris, Tennessee. She told *WSMV* that he saved her life. He graduated from Union University in 2015 with a BS in Nursing Accelerated and was president of his BSNA class. He was shot in the back.
- Patricia "Pati" Mestas, 67, a retired gas station/convenience store and deli manager originally from Pomona and living in Menifee, California, left her

friend to move to the front of the stage when Jason Aldean started performing. Her friend Dana survived. She loved country music, traveling and her family, including her two brothers, three children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

- Austin Meyer, 24, from Reno, Nevada was marking his 24th birthday and his upcoming relationship anniversary with his girlfriend. He enjoyed cars, sports, and cheering for the Boston Celtics. He had moved from Marina, California to start classes at Truckee Meadows Community College. His sister said he hoped to open an auto repair shop. He earlier worked at Main Event Transportation, a limousine service company in Monterey, California.
- Adrian Murfitt, 35, a commercial fisherman from Anchorage, Alaska who had surprised his friend with a weekend boys' trip to Las Vegas. His friend, Brian MacKinnon, held him in his lap as he passed away.
- Rachael Parker, 33, a Manhattan Beach Police records technician who worked at the department's front desk for ten years, was one of four Manhattan Beach police employees who were off-duty at the concert. She earned her bachelor's degree in social work from Colorado State University in June 2016 and was applying to graduate school. She enjoyed working with older adults, completing her undergraduate practicum at Manhattan Beach's Older Adult Program. She adopted two dogs, Maddie and Izzy. She enjoyed baking, country music, and Los Angeles Kings hockey. Another department police employee, a sworn officer, was shot and suffered minor injuries.
- Jennifer Parks, 35, a kindergarten teacher for the Westside Union School District in California whose high school sweetheart husband, Bobby, a solar panel salesman, was shot in the arm and finger. The couple was visiting his two brothers, who live in Las Vegas. The couple lived under the San Gabriel Mountains.
- Carrie Parsons, from Seattle, Washington, was a fan of country singer Eric Church.
- Lisa Patterson, 46, from Lomita and Los Angeles' San Pedro community in California, was a wife and mother of three, serving on her church parish council and coaching girls softball. She was attending the concert with four friends. The couple's youngest daughter is eight years old; her eldest is Amber Patterson.
- John Phippen, 56, a general contractor and father of six from Valencia, California, was killed while shielding a woman from the gunfire. He was hit after his son stopped to help someone else. His son was wounded in the arm. He lost his wife three years ago. He enjoyed camping with his family and neighbors. His best friend described him as a "lumberjack kind of a guy" who loved music.
- Melissa Ramirez, 26, from Littlerock, California, graduated in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in business administration from California State University Bakersfield. She had been looking forward to the concert since March and was a Jason Aldean fan. She worked as a member service specialist for AAA. She and her friends stayed at the nearby Excalibur Hotel.
- Jordyn Rivera, 21, from La Verne, California, a fourth-year student at California State University, San Bernardino, enjoyed playing softball.
- Quinton Robbins, 20, from Henderson, Nevada, was at the concert with his girlfriend, who thought he had gone into diabetic shock when he clutched his chest. He coached his younger brother's flag football team, and the two siblings had just attended a Los Angeles Dodgers game together.
- Cameron Robinson, 27 or 28, from southwestern Utah, commuted to Las Vegas, where he worked as a legal records specialist. He was shot in the neck. His boyfriend, Robert Eardley, carried him to a vehicle before he died.
- Rocio Guillen Rocha, 40, of Anaheim, California, and fiancé Christopher Jaksha had traveled with their two best friends to Las Vegas from Eastvale, California, for their annual celebration of one of the couple's birthdays. She left behind four children, including Marcus, 18; Christopher, 13; Sofia, 1; and one-month-old Austin. She was temporarily paralyzed by a blood clot on her spine experienced while she was giving birth. She recovered, and ran half marathons. She was an assistant manager at a California Pizza Kitchen.
- Tara Roe, 34, was an educational assistant with Foothills School Division in Alberta, Canada and modeled for Sophia Models International.
- Lisa Romero-Muniz, 48, a school discipline secretary at three Gallup-McKinley County Schools in New Mexico since 2003, loved country music, Pittsburgh Steelers football, and especially her daughter and two sons, four grandchildren and several godchildren. She acted as an advocate for students during times of discipline.
- Christopher Roybal, 28, a Navy veteran who had served in Afghanistan, worked as a general manager at Crunch Gym in North Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was attending the concert with his mother to celebrate his 29th birthday.
- Brian (or Brett) Schwanbeck, 61, a grandfather of five and retired big-rig truck driver from Bullhead City, Arizona, enjoyed the outdoors, according to his fiancé, Anna Orozco, who was with him at the festival.
- Bailey Schweitzer, 20, was a receptionist at Infinity Communications and Consulting in Bakersfield, California who took her mother to the concert. She graduated from Centennial High

School, where she was a cheerleader and played volleyball. She belonged to Valley Bible Fellowship Church and helped run her family's business, Bakersfield Speedway.

- Laura Shipp, 50, from Las Vegas, became separated at the concert from her son, Corey, 23, who survived. They had spent two days at the festival. She was a Dodgers fan. She moved to Las Vegas five years earlier to be closer to her son.
- Erick Silva, 22, from Las Vegas, had begun a career in security because he loved helping people. His stepsister said, "He had just turned 21 this August and I'm pretty sure he died trying to protect people at that concert." He was working as a security guard at the concert and was believed to have been one of the first people killed, shot in the head.
- Susan Smith, 53, a married mother of two young-adult children and office manager at Vista Elementary School in Simi Valley, California for 16 years, was attending the concert with two friends. Her own children were once a part of the school district and she was very active as a parent.
- Brennan Stewart, 30, from Las Vegas, spent his final evening at the concert with girlfriend Gia Iantuono, whom he shielded before he was killed. He loved country music, played guitar, and wrote music. His cover of Cole Swindell's "You Should Be Here" received more than 134,000 *Facebook* views and more than 1,170 shares.
- Derrick "Bo" Taylor, 56, a 30-year veteran and lieutenant with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, who worked at the Ventura Conservation Camp, which houses up to 110 adult male inmates being trained to become regional firefighters. He attended the concert with girlfriend Denise Cohen, who also died.
- Neysa Tonks, 46, a single mother of three sons—Kaden Manczek, 24, Braxton, 17, and Greysen, 14—from Las Vegas, was a Jason Aldean fan who attended the concert with her boyfriend and coworkers from Technologent, which established a GoFundMe page on behalf of her family, raising $155,000 in three days. A bullet hit her in the head, killing her.
- Michelle Vo, 32, lived in Los Angeles, California and worked for New York Life Insurance in its Greater Pasadena office. She met Kody Robertson, 32, at the concert. They were watching the final act together when a bullet struck her chest. Robertson threw his body over hers to protect her. Later, they were separated; he tracked her down to a hospital to find that she was dead.
- Kurt von Tillow, 55, a truck driver from Cameron Park, California, and his wife Mary Jo golfed together and recently brought their two grandchildren to Disneyland. They went to Vegas annually for the festival. His wife and daughter escaped unharmed. His sister and niece were hospitalized and were expected to survive.
- Bill Wolfe, Jr., 42, a father of two from Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, coached youth wrestling and Little League. He once worked as an engineer for a surveying and engineering firm. His wife, Robyn, survived. They became separated at the concert. The town held a prayer vigil for him at Doc Norcross Stadium. A friend said he was a devoted Christian.

Information on the 489 injured was sparse, typical of reporting on mass casualty attacks. Jonathan Smith was shot in the neck after helping roughly 30 people, including his young nieces, to safety. Faithitalf.com reported on October 4 that Michael Gracia, 24, and girlfriend Summer Clyburn, 22, new parents of Vayda, their 3-month-old daughter, were at the concert when Gracia, a California police officer, was shot in the head. Summer leapt on top of him, shielding him, but she was shot in the back. A GoFundMe page raised $60,000 for the couple's medical bills. A man stole a truck to transport victims to the hospital.

Paddock used "bump stocks"—which permit a semiautomatic weapon to simulate the rapid fire of an automatic weapon—on a dozen of his 23 weapons. His weapons included an AR-15 and another AR-15-type rifle with a magnification scope often used for hunting and a bipod stand to steady it. Police said he was able to fire continuously for nine minutes. He had set up two cameras—one disguised in a service cart—linked to a tablet to monitor the hallway outside his room and a camera on the entrance door's peephole to give him an idea of when police might be entering. He fired 200 rounds into the hallway. He apparently shot himself with a silver, black-handled revolver he put into his mouth.

Upon returning to the U.S. from Tokyo and the Philippines on October 3, Marilou Danley told the FBI that he had given her a ticket to the Philippines to visit her family, and wired her $100,000 to purchase a house. She thought he was planning to break up with her, and she did not know of his plans. Several years earlier, the couple met where Danley worked as a high-limit hostess for Club Paradise, a rewards program in the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno. *NBC News* reported on October 5 that she claimed he had mental health problems, although there was no medical record of them.

Court records indicated that Danley may lived with Paddock as early as August 2013, while she was still married to Geary Danley, whom she married in Las Vegas in 1990. They jointly filed for divorce on February 25, 2015; the divorce was finalized the next day. During her divorce, she listed a downtown Reno apartment owned by Paddock as her address. At one point she worked for an airline based out of California's Bay Area. The duo lived in a retirement community in Reno. She worked for Avon. She has

a daughter and grandchildren, according to the *Washington Post*.

*CNN* reported on October 5 that he might have been planning to set off a bomb; ammonium nitrate, a chemical used to make explosives, was found in his home. *NBC News* added that 50 pounds of Tannerite, which as marketed as explosive rifle targets, were in his car. He had scouted large events at Fenway Park in Boston, Lollapalooza in Chicago and the Life is Beautiful music festival in Las Vegas months earlier. *CNN* reported that he rented a room at the Ogden condo complex via Airbnb during the Life is Beautiful music festival on September 22–25.

Between October 2016 and September 28, 2017, when he checked into the hotel, he had purchased 33 weapons, mostly rifles. Paddock had purchased shotguns, handguns and rifles in Nevada, Utah, California and Texas, and left 1,600 rounds in his car. He bought guns from major retailers such as Cabela's, national retailer of guns and outdoor gear, and Guns & Guitars, a store in Mesquite, Nevada. His rifle magazines held between 60 and 100 rounds. He tried and failed to purchase tracer rounds at a gun show in Phoenix.

Investigators found some indications that Paddock intended to escape alive. They found a piece of paper in the hotel room that was not a suicide note, but had numbers of undetermined meaning. *CNN* later reported that a law enforcement officer believed that they were distance and trajectory calculations.

*AP* and *KLAS-TV* reported on November 4 that Clark County Sherriff Joe Lombardo said that Paddock lost a "significant amount of wealth" since September 2015, leading to "bouts of depression." "This individual was status-driven, based on how he liked to be recognized in the casino environment and how he liked to be recognized by his friends and family. So, obviously, that was starting to decline in the short period of time, and that may have had a determining effect on why he did what he did."

*Bloomberg News* reported that insurance claims from victims and families might top $1 billion.

**October 6:** *NBC News* reported that undercover law enforcement officers broke up an ISIS-inspired plan by a Canadian, a Pakistani-American, and a Filipino to set off bombs and fire weapons at events in Times Square. The *New York Post* reported that the trio aimed at killing "thousands" and making "an ocean out of their blood." The authorities had infiltrated the plotters' group in 2016. Federal authorities arrested a Canadian man in May 2016 accused of plotting to attack music concerts, landmarks and crowded subways. Investigators said he wanted to injure as many people as possible, but the suspect was arrested before obtaining any weapons. The Canadian suspect spoke to another man about wanting to strike Times Square and crowded New York City subways during rush hour. *Fox News* reported that the unsealed charges identified the trio as Abdulrahman el-Bahnasawy, 19, a Canadian citizen; Talha Haroon, 19, a U.S. citizen based in Pakistan; and Dr. Russell Salic, alias Abu Khalid, alias The Doctor, 37, a citizen of the Philippines.

El-Bahnasawy was arrested in May 2016 after traveling to New Jersey from Canada. Manhattan federal prosecutors said that he pleaded guilty in October 2016 to seven terror-related charges, including conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction, conspiracy to commit acts of terrorism across national borders, and conspiracy to bomb a public transportation system. Prosecutors say that el-Bahnasawy and Haroon plotted attacks to occur during Ramadan, which ran from June 6 to July 5 in 2016. El-Bahnasawy allegedly bought bomb-making materials, including 40 pounds of hydrogen peroxide, which prosecutors alleged could be used to make a component of an improvised explosive device, as well as batteries, Christmas lights, thermometers and aluminum foil, and secured a cabin outside of New York City to use as a safe house.

Haroon was arrested in Pakistan in September 2016. Salic was arrested in the Philippines in April 2017. Both men awaited extradition to the U.S. Haroon consulted an "explosives expert" in Pakistan and planned to come to the U.S. to carry out the attacks. Investigators said el-Bahnasawy and Haroon discussed their plans online with an undercover FBI agent posing as an ISIS sympathizer. El-Bahnasawy told the agent that he wanted to "create the next 9/11." He sent the agent on May 1, 2016, a map of the New York City subway system with markings indicating which lines the men would attack. Haroon added they should shoot as many train passengers as possible, "including women or kids.... When we run out of bullets, we let the vests go off." El-Bahnasawy told the agent on May 12 that they should set off a car bomb in Times Square, adding "shoot up concerts cuz they kill a lot of people." He said he and his coconspirators should "walk in with guns in our hands. That's how the Paris guys did it," citing the November 2015 ISIS attacks in Paris as a model. The *New York Post* reported that on May 20, 2016, Haroon told an undercover agent that Times Square was "a perfect spot to hit them" and suggested a "drive-by, or we surround the whole street and trap them and kill as many as possible ... leave no one standing." Haroon planned to travel to the city and discussed executing his planned attacks as soon as that Memorial Day—a day that "will change history." A district magistrate approved Haroon's extradition in January, but a higher court blocked it in March. He was represented by attorneys Tariq Asad and Idrees Ashraf. Judge Shaukat Aziz Siddiqi of the Islamabad High Court scheduled a bail plea for October 13, 2017.

Salic allegedly wired $423 from the Philippines to

an undercover FBI agent posing as a jihadi to support the operation. The *Washington Post* reported that he was arrested in the Philippines for his alleged involvement in kidnappings and beheadings. The Department of Justice in Manila would have to decide whether to let Salic face criminal complaints in the Philippines first or be extradited to the U.S. to answer terrorism allegations. He allegedly told an undercover FBI agent that his goal was to join ISIS in Syria but that "it would be a great pleasure if we can slaughter" people in New York. Filipino state prosecutors said Salic was taken into custody around April 2017 for alleged involvement in the pro–ISIS Maute group's abduction of six sawmill workers, two of whom were later beheaded, in the southern Philippine town of Butig in Lanao del Sur Province in 2016. Dalomilang Parahiman, his lawyer, said on October 10 that Salic was not involved, had never held a gun, gave money only to charity, renounced terrorism, and would fight extradition. Parahiman said Salic had given money to prevent students from losing their teacher, who had not been paid. He helped five nongovernment groups and people, including an Australian. He claimed Salic said his *Facebook* account was hacked by an individual who assumed his identity for online chats. He surrendered to the National Bureau of Investigation after being informed by Philippine airport officials that he was being sought for terrorism-linked charges. He had planned to travel to Hong Kong. Manila authorities held an extradition hearing on November 7, 2017.

**October 10:** *Fox News* reported that the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the appeal of Yemeni citizen Ali Hamza al-Bahlul, Osama bin Laden's one-time assistant and propagandist, upholding his November 2008 conspiracy conviction before a military tribunal. He was convicted of conspiring with al-Qaeda, soliciting murder and providing material support for terrorism by making videos for the terror organization.

**October 20:** The FBI arrested Vicente Adolfo Solano, 53, who had allegedly plotted with an FBI confidential informant to bomb a food court at the Miami-area Dolphin Mall. He was arrested after accepting a fake bomb from undercover FBI agents outside the mall. Solano claimed ISIS allegiance, although the Bureau said on October 26 that there was no evidence of links to foreign terrorists. An FBI agent testified at a bail hearing on October 26 that he appeared to have acted alone. A federal judge denied bail. He was charged with attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction, which carries a life sentence.

**October 31:** *CNN* and *AP* reported that at 3:05 p.m., a white rental pickup truck with Home Depot logos sped the wrong way for 20 blocks along the West Side Highway bike path from Houston Street toward Chambers Street in lower west side Manhattan's Tribeca area, killing eight people and seriously injuring twelve pedestrians and bicyclists; some had tire tracks on their bodies. The truck t-boned a small yellow school bus, injuring two adults and two children, including Noah Salz, 17, and stopped. Uzbek driver Sayfullo Habibullaevic Saipov, 29, exited the truck, waved imitation firearms, wandered around, and yelled "Allahu Akbar." Ryan Nash, 28, a police officer from the 1st Precinct, who was at a nearby high school for an unrelated call regarding an emotionally disturbed individual, approached Saipov, shot him in the abdomen, then arrested him. Saipov was wearing a blue track suit. Police found a stun gun on the floor of his truck and three knives in a black bag he was carrying. Police found a paintball gun and a pellet gun at the scene. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said, "Based on the information we had at this moment this was an act of terror, a particularly cowardly act of terror aimed at innocent civilians." ISIS supporters celebrated the attack online. Authorities found an English-language and Arabic-language note in Saipov's truck lauding ISIS.

Saipov came to the U.S. in March 2010 as an Uzbekistan refugee as part of the refugee lottery program, becoming a permanent legal resident. He moved from New Jersey to Ohio and Florida. He lived in Tampa and had a Florida driver's license. Uber said he had taken 1,400 fares and never had a complaint during his six-month stint. He listed his profession on his marriage license as truck driver; he married Nozima Odilova on April 12, 2013. He rented the truck in New Jersey. He lived with his wife and three children on Genessee Avenue in Paterson, New Jersey. Saipov had traffic citations issued in Missouri and Pennsylvania and was arrested by the Missouri State Highway Patrol in October 2016 after failing to show up in court for a misdemeanor offense, for which he forfeited a $200 bond in November. A guilty plea was entered in his behalf.

John Miller, NYPD deputy commissioner for intelligence and counter-terrorism, said Saipov had planned the attack for a "number of weeks" and based it on instructions ISIS had issued on truck attacks. Saipov told authorities that he picked Halloween because more people would be outside. He had planned the attack for a year, and decided on a truck two months ago. He requested that an ISIS flag be displayed in his hospital room. He had watched ISIS videos on his cell phone, apparently becoming radicalized in the U.S. He had considered putting ISIS flags on the truck, but decided it was too attention-grabbing.

Saipov was charged with providing material support to a terrorist group, plus one count of violence and destruction of a motor vehicle—a charge that, because prosecutors alleged someone died as a result, could entail a death sentence. He followed court proceedings via a Russian interpreter. The charge sheet

said Saipov rented the truck on October 22 so that he could practice driving it. He was seen puttering around the neighborhood, practicing turning. Prosecutors said he had 90 videos and 3,800 photos on his cell phones, many of them ISIS propaganda, including those of beheadings and prisoners being shot or run over by a tank. Authorities said he hoped to get to the Brooklyn Bridge to hit more pedestrians. He was represented by court-appointed attorney David Patton.

President Donald Trump tweeted "looks like another attack by a very sick and deranged person." "My thoughts, condolences and prayers to the victims and families of the New York City terrorist attack. God and your country are with you!" He accused Senator Chuck Schumer of not being tough enough on immigration. "The terrorist came into our country through what is called the 'Diversity Visa Lottery Program,' a Chuck Schumer beauty. I want merit based." Trump said he might send Saipov, whom he called an "animal," to Guantanamo Bay. He announced that he was "terminating" a diversity visa lottery program. Trump added, "Diversity lottery. Sounds nice. It's not nice. It's not good. It's not good. It hasn't been good. We've been against it." He observed, "This man that came in, or whatever you want to call him, brought in with him other people and he was the primary point of contact for—and this is preliminarily—23 people that came in or potentially came in with him. That's not acceptable." Trump deemed U.S. immigration laws "a joke" and "a laughingstock." "We have to get much tougher. We have to get much smarter. And we have to get much less politically correct."

The dead included:

- Five Argentines from Rosario—Hernán Diego Mendoza, Diego Enrique Angelini, Alejandro Damián Pagnucco, Ariel Erlij and Hernán Ferruchi—who were enjoying their 30th Polytechnic School high school reunion. Erlij owned Ivanar, an iron and steel works company. Ferruchi and Angelini were architects. Martin Ludovico Marro, 48, a sixth Argentine with the group, was treated for injuries at New York-Presbyterian's Lower Manhattan Hospital. He lived in Newton, a Boston suburb, and worked as a biomedical researcher at Novartis Institutes in Cambridge.
- Belgian woman Anne-Laure Decadt, 31, who was biking along the West Side Highway with her mother and two sisters, who were not harmed. She left behind a 3-year-old son, a 3-month-old son, and husband Alexander Naessens. She was from Staden, Belgium. Three other Belgian citizens were wounded, according to Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders.
- Darren Drake, 32, of New Milford, New Jersey, was a project manager for Moody's Investors Service at the World Trade Center. He was an only child and New Jersey native who lived with his parents. He graduated from high school in New Milford in 2003 and attended Rutgers. He earned an MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2011. He was working on a second master's degree at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. Drake served on the New Milford Board of Education from April 2009 until June 2013. He served as the board's vice president and then president in January 2013. His father, Jimmy, said he would donate Darren's bike to charity. Darren was listening to an audiobook on the Americas before Europeans came when he was hit by the truck.
- Nicholas Cleves, 23, of New York, a software engineer who lived in a West Village apartment, the historic landmark The Archive, two blocks from the Hudson River. He attended Little Red School House and Elisabeth Irwin High School (LREI) from kindergarten through 12th grade, graduating from the Manhattan progressive school in 2012. He graduated with a degree in computer science and minor in physics from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. At Skidmore, he studied Italian, worked as an IT Help Desk assistant and tutored students in astronomy. He began work with Unified Digital Group in May 2016 as a software engineer/analyst.

Three members of an Antwerp, Belgium family—Marion Van Reeth, 54, her husband Aristide Melissas, 47, and their son, Daryl Melissas, 16—were hospitalized. She was so badly mangled that her legs had to be amputated. The father and son suffered head and neck injuries. The couple's nephew sustained scratches. Aristide worked as an executive for a plastics company founded by his family in 1948 and played for a senior-level team of the Belgian field hockey association. She was a marketing communications manager who participated in the company-sponsored Bike for Africa charity.

*CNN* reported on November 21 that the U.S. Attorney's office for the Southern District of New York charged Sayfullo Habibullaevic Saipov, 29, with killing eight people and injuring a dozen others. The 22-count indictment included eight counts of murder in aid of racketeering, a dozen counts of attempted murder in aid of racketeering, one count of providing and attempting to provide material support to ISIS and one count of violence and destruction of a motor vehicle. Earlier in November 2017, he was charged with providing material support to ISIS, and with violence and destruction of motor vehicles. He was scheduled to appear in federal court on November 28, 2017. 17103101

**November 1:** Among 470,000 al-Qaeda Abbottabad documents the CIA released was a 228-page journal titled, "Special diaries for Abu Abdullah: Sheikh Ab-

dullah's points of view—A session with the family," apparently handwritten by one of Osama bin Laden's daughters, covering conversations between with his daughters, Miriam and Somiya, his wife and his sons, Khaled and Hamza between February and April 2011. Excerpts included:

- "This chaos and the absence of leadership in the revolutions is the best environment to spread al-Qaeda's thoughts and ideas."
- Praise for *al-Jazeera*'s "working on toppling regimes" and for "carrying the banner of the revolutions."
- "I am upset by the timing of the revolutions. We told them to slow down."
- The Libyan uprising "has opened the door for jihadists." "This is why Gadhafi and his son say that the extremists will come from the sea, which will be an area of operation for al-Qaeda. This will be the Somalia of the Mediterranean."
- He first considered jihad "in secondary school." "There wasn't a particular group that was guiding me, like the Muslim Brotherhood."
- He noted a summer of study in the UK at age 14, including visiting Shakespeare's home. He did not return to the UK the next summer, because "I saw that they were a society different from ours and that they were morally corrupt."
- The Saudis would soon feel the "tsunami" of change, observing, "The flood is coming and it will lead to a change so there is no need for violence."

**November 5:** At 11:20 a.m., former USAF Airman and Texan Devin Patrick Kelley, 26, a white gunman wearing black gear and a tactical vest, plus a black mask with a white skull face on it, fired 450 rounds from a Ruger AR-556 semiautomatic assault rifle during Sunday services inside the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs in Wilson County in south Texas, killing 26, including an eight-months-pregnant woman, and wounding 20, included several children. Ten people remained in critical condition four days later. Victims were aged 17 months to 77 years old; at least a dozen of the dead and injured were children. Some bullets sprayed into nearby homes. The gunman initially fired outside the church, killing two, then walked down the aisles, continuing his firing. He fired a pistol at a local citizen who was firing a rifle at him. As he exited the church, the attacker escaped in his still-running Ford Explorer. The local citizen ran to Johnnie Langendorff, who was sitting in his pickup truck, told him what had happened, and the duo pursued Kelley, hitting 95 mph. Langendorff was on the phone to police dispatch, keeping them apprised of the chase. Kelley phoned his father, saying he did not think he would survive the gunshot. The gunman hit a roadside and crashed into a ditch off the roadway eleven miles away in neighboring Guadalupe County. He was found dead of a gunshot. It was not clear if it was self-inflicted, or fired by a civilian or police. An autopsy indicated that he was shot in the leg and torso but he shot himself in the head. Police found several weapons in Kelley's vehicle, including the Ruger rifle, a Glock handgun and a Ruger handgun. Fifteen emptied magazines were at the church. He had purchased four guns during each of the last four years. Kelley lived in New Braunfels in nearby Comal County. It did not appear that he was involved with an international terrorist group. The church might have been damaged beyond repair.

The dead included:

- Keith Braden, 62.
- Robert and Shani Corrigan, both 51, high school sweethearts who married shortly after graduation. Upon enlisting in the Air Force, he was stationed near San Antonio.
- Eight members of the Holcombe family, including associate pastor Bryan Holcombe, 60, who lived on a farm in nearby Floresville with his wife, Karla Holcombe, 58. Also killed were Marc Daniel Holcombe, 36, Bryan and Karla Holcombe's son; Noah Holcombe, Danny's 17-month-old daughter; Crystal Holcombe, 36, the pregnant wife of Bryan and Karla's other son, John, who survived the shooting; and three (Greg Hill, 13; Emily Hill, 11, and Megan Hill, 9) of Crystal Holcombe's five children, to whom John was the stepfather. Two of her children were hospitalized with John Holcombe. Crystal's unborn child died. Danny Holcombe worked at F&W Electrical Contractors.
- Dennis, 77, and Sara Johnson, 68, who were married for 44 years and were members of the Sutherland Springs church for eleven years. Dennis Neil Johnson, Sr., was born in Rockford, Illinois and had served as a Navy Seabee during the Gulf War. He had served in the Army National Guard and was a member of the American Legion. Sara Louise Johnson, born in Jasper, Florida, worked in the Wilson County Tax Office for a decade. She recently worked a Pfeil's Home and Garden in Floresville, Texas. She volunteered for three decades at a church nursery. They had six children and several grandchildren and were expecting four great-grandchildren.
- Haley Krueger, 16, who hoped to become a nurse in a neonatal intensive care unit. Her father died of pancreatic cancer in 2015, leaving behind her and three siblings.
- Veterans Robert and Karen Marshall, both 56, and their unborn child had recently moved to Texas from Pennsylvania and were visiting the church for the first time. She was planning on retiring from the Air Force. He worked on engines.
- Tara McNulty, 33.
- Annabelle Renee Pomeroy, 14, daughter of Sherri and Pastor Frank Pomeroy, who were not at the church; he was in Oklahoma.

- Richard, 64, and Therese Rodriguez, 66, who had recently retired from a railroad-building company, where he had been a foreman and she a receptionist. They were married for ten years.
- Joann Ward, 30, and children Emily Garcia, 7, and Brooke Ward, 5.
- Peggy Lynn Warden, 56, who tried to save her teen grandson when the firing started.
- Lula Woicinski White, 71, Kelley's grandmother-in-law, who volunteered often at the church.

Kelley had a violent past. He had brought guns onto Holloman Air Force Base, where he was a logistical readiness airman since enlisting in 2010, and made death threats against commanders, leading to his placement into pretrial confinement at a New Mexico civilian mental health facility to wait for his court martial in 2012. He escaped a few days later. Police found him at a downtown El Paso bus station in June 2012. He was sentenced to a year in prison at a Navy brig in San Diego and given a bad conduct discharge following two counts in 2011 and 2012 of domestic abuse against his wife and stepson, whose skull he had cracked. He was prone to domestic violence and animal cruelty. Retired Air Force Colonel Don Christensen said Kelley he was involved in "multiple occasions of domestic abuse" against his then-wife and stepson. He was discharged after he pleaded guilty to assault charges. New Braunfels police investigated him in a rape case in June 2013. The next day, Kelley's father reported a burglary of a laptop computer and hard drive belonging to his son from a barn he had converted into an apartment. Kelley was in a traffic accident that morning. Upon release in 2014, he was arrested in August in El Paso County, Colorado, on an animal cruelty charge for punching a dog, grabbing it by the neck and dragging the animal. Police also came to his house in February 2014 to investigate a domestic violence report against Danielle Shields, whom he married two months later. His social media use suggested a fascination with mass shootings. The atheist posted anti–God and pro-gun statements. He earlier attended the church, but was not welcome there. Texas officials said that he had sent threatening texts to his mother-in-law, who attended the church.

The *Washington Post* reported on November 6 that the Air Force failed to follow policies for alerting federal law enforcement about Kelley's violent past, not entering it into the National Criminal Information Center database, thus enabling him to obtain firearms and body armor. Kelley bought two weapons from firearms retailer Academy Sports after passing federal background checks in 2016 and 2017. He failed to obtain a permit allowing him to carry a concealed weapon, but had an "unarmed private security license." He worked during the summer as an unarmed night security guard at a Schlitterbahn water park in New Braunfels, having passed a Texas Department of Public Safety criminal background check. Kelley was fired in July. He passed a background check that allowed him to work for HEB, a Texas grocery chain, in New Braunfels. He worked there for two months in 2013 before quitting.

*AP* reported on November 6 that the good Samaritan rifleman was Stephen Willeford, 55, a former National Rifle Association instructor who ran barefoot from his home across the street to fire at Kelley at the nearby church.

*CNN* reported on November 11 that Jessika Edwards, who claimed to have worked with Kelley at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico from 2010 to 2012, said he posted on *Facebook* in 2014 that he bought dogs on Craigslist for "target practice." He was also fascinated with mass murders and praised Dylann Roof, who killed nine people at a South Carolina church.

**November 20:** The Trump Administration put North Korea back on the list of state sponsors of terrorism, which included Iran, Sudan and Syria. North Korea was removed from the list in 2008 for meeting nuclear inspection requirements.

**November 23:** *AP* and the *Dallas Morning News* reported that Julia Poff, 46, was accused by federal authorities of mailing explosive packages in 2016 to former President Obama and Texas Governor Greg Abbott. Abbott was unhurt because he did not open the package the way it was designed. Prosecutors said she was upset that her ex-husband had not paid child support. Abbott had overseen child support while attorney general. Poff was indicted in district court in Houston earlier in November on six counts, including mailing injurious articles, transporting explosives with the intent to kill and injure, stealing money from clients at a law firm where she had worked, keeping money donated for a widowed father and his child after Hurricane Harvey, asking friends not to talk to the FBI, and several counts of fraud related to a bankruptcy and food stamps. Investigators traced the bomb sent to Obama to Poff because of some cat hair found under an address label. The device contained a cellphone, a cigarette package and a salad dressing cap. She was represented by public defender Ashley Kaper.

**December 4:** Local television news stations and the *Florida Times-Union* reported that Jacksonville authorities prevented a planned mass shooting against the northeast Florida Islamic Center at 2333 St. Johns Bluff Road South when they arrested Filipino immigrant Bernandino Gawala Bolatete, 69. He was charged with knowingly receiving and possessing a silencer not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record. He had obtained the rifle silencer on December 1 from an un-

dercover officer in the parking lot of Academy Sports and Outdoors at 11901 Atlantic Boulevard in Jacksonville. Sheriffs learned of the plan in late October. They recorded conversations with him on November 10, 14, 20 and 24, providing them to the FBI as evidence. He told the undercover officer that he lost a kidney after being accidentally shot in the back in the Philippines. His other kidney functioned at less than 30 percent and he needed to undergo dialysis. Regarding his plan, he told the officer "If I ever decide to do that, I'm not thinking of getting caught. I'll die there in that area. They'll be some sort of suicide thing … suicide by police?" The undercover officer was asked if he could help obtain a silencer on November 27. The buyer asked that there be no paperwork. He faced ten years in federal prison. Police searched his home in the 13200 block of Eucalyptus Drive off Atlantic Boulevard. He had claimed that he had five guns, including an AR-15 that could be converted to an AR-47. He planned to attack during Friday prayers.

**December 8:** Following an FBI undercover operation, authorities arrested U.S. citizen Kaan Sercan Damlarkaya, 18, of Houston, and charged him with illegally distributing explosive-making information and attempting to support ISIS. The U.S. Department of Justice said that he intended to travel overseas and fight for ISIS and said he tried to get to Syria twice. He told agents that he would commit a U.S. attack if he could not get overseas. DOJ said that he provided to alleged ISIS supporters a formula for explosive triacetone triperoxide and instructions how to use it in a pressure cooker device containing shrapnel. He faced a 20-year maximum prison term.

**December 11:** *NPR, AP, CNN, New York Post* and the *Washington Post* reported that at 7:20 a.m., bearded Bangladeshi immigrant Akayed Ullah, 27, set off his explosives in an underground passageway in the New York City Port Authority Bus Terminal and subway station at Manhattan's 42nd Street and 8th Avenue near Times Square, injuring six people, including him. Port Authority police officers Sean Gallagher, Drew Preston, John Collins and Anthony Manfredini took him into custody. He had velcro'ed and zip tied a pipe bomb onto his body, and was the only person seriously injured in the blast, which he said was inspired by ISIS. *BBC* reported that he posted on *Facebook* earlier in the day, "Trump you failed to protect your nation." Investigators found a passport in his name with such handwritten notations as "O AMERICA, DIE IN YOUR RAGE." Ullah was treated at Bellevue Hospital for burns and lacerations to his hands and abdomen. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio called it "an attempted terrorist attack." A second bomb did not go off.

Ullah was a permanent resident in Brooklyn who entered the U.S. from Chittagong, Bangladesh in 2011 after presenting a passport with an F43 family immigrant visa. President Trump announced that the country's "lax immigration system … allows far too many dangerous, inadequately vetted people to access our country." He said Ullah entered "through extended-family chain migration, which is incompatible with national security." The pro–ISIS Maqdisi Media group suggested on *Telegram* that the bombing was a response to Trump's recent announcement of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. A law enforcement official said he acted in response to Israeli actions in Gaza. *Reuters* reported that he had no criminal record in Bangladesh. He had conducted electrical work near the Port Authority with his brother, who lived in the same apartment building as Ullah. The next day, *CNN* and *AP* reported that Ullah was charged in federal court in Manhattan with providing material support to a terrorist group, using a weapon of mass destruction, bombing a public place, destruction of property by means of fire or explosive, and use of a destructive device during a crime of violence. New York City police officials said they had filed state terrorism charges including criminal possession of a weapon, supporting an act of terrorism and making a "terroristic threat."

The foot-long pipe bomb, which he made in his apartment the previous week, contained black powder, a battery, wiring, nails and screws.

A security camera spotted him climbing the subway station stairs to the 18th Avenue F. train platform in Brooklyn at 6:25 a.m. He entered the A train at the Jay Street/MetroTech stop in Brooklyn before leaving the train at the Port Authority Bus Terminal stop in Manhattan.

From March 2012 to March 2015, he held a Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) license, which had not been renewed.

He last traveled to Dhaka, Bangladesh, where his wife and one-year-old child live, in September 2017.

Bangladeshi officials said Ullah listened to the sermons of Moulana Jasimuddin Rahmani, the imprisoned leader of the Ansarullah Bangla Team.

**December 14:** The *Long War Journal* reported that the Department of Justice announced that Pakistan-born U.S. citizen Zoobia Shahnaz, 27, a resident of Long Island, New York, was arrested and charged with sending $85,000 to ISIS, "bank fraud, conspiracy to commit money laundering and three substantive counts of money laundering" in the service of the so-called caliphate. Prosecutors alleged that she was interested in ISIS propaganda since August 2015. DOJ accused her of defrauding financial institutions such as American Express Bank, Chase Bank, Discover Bank and TD Bank and converting the "illicit proceeds" into Bitcoin and "other cryptocurrencies" that she could launder and transfer abroad to ISIS. DOJ added that she "obtained a loan for approximately

$22,500 by way of materially false representations," "fraudulently applied for over a dozen credit cards, which she used to purchase approximately $62,000 in Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies online," and wired more than $150,000 in total "to individuals and apparent shell entities in Pakistan, China and Turkey," including an "individual" in Karachi, a "medical supply company in the Zhejang Province of China" and an "individual" in Ankara. She was stopped for questioning at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York on July 31 as "she attempted to board a flight to Islamabad, Pakistan." Authorities believed she planned to sneak into Syria. She was arrested on December 13 after being prohibited from traveling abroad. DOJ noted that Shahnaz has no known criminal history" and, until mid–June, had been working at a Manhattan hospital as a "lab technician," earning "approximately $71,000 per year." In early 2016, she travelled "to Jordan to volunteer with the Syrian American Medical Society," providing medical aid to Syrian refugees for approximately two weeks in both Amman and in the Zataari Refugee camp, where "ISIS exercises significant influence." She was represented by attorney Steve Zissou. She "faces a maximum of 30 years for the bank fraud charge and 20 years on each money laundering count."

**December 19:** David Wright, who plotted to behead anti-jihad activist Pamela Geller, was sentenced to 28 years in prison. He was convicted in October 2017 of conspiracy to commit terrorism, conspiracy to support the Islamic State and other charges. Prosecutors had said that Wright's uncle, Usaamah Abdullah Rahim, had purchased three military-style knives, including a 15-inch Ontario Spec Plus Marine Raider Bowie fighting knife, each more than a foot long, and Wright had researched firearms and human tranquilizers online. The third member of the group, Nicholas Rovinski, had researched saws and chopping tools. Rahim was fatally shot several days later when he drew one of his knives on law enforcement officers in Boston. Wright and Rovinski were charged with terrorism counts and obstruction of justice for destroying phone and computer records that shed light on their plot. Rovinski pleaded guilty to conspiracy, testified against Wright, and was scheduled to be sentenced on December 20.

**December 22:** *CNN* and *AP* reported that the FBI arrested Everitt Aaron Jameson, 26, who told undercover agents he wanted to carry out an ISIS-inspired suicide bombing at San Francisco's Pier 39 on Christmas Day. Jameson was charged with attempting to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization. Since September, the tow-truck driver from Modesto, California had been in contact with FBI agents posing as ISIS affiliates, "espoused radical jihadi beliefs" and expressed a desire to conduct a violent attack on San Francisco's Pier 39. A source told the FBI about one of Jameson's *Facebook* accounts that "was 'liking' and 'loving' posts that were pro–ISIS and pro terrorism." One such post Jameson "loved" was an ISIS propaganda poster that showed Santa Claus standing in New York with a box of dynamite, with the caption: "We meet at Christmas in New York … soon." Jameson said he had converted to Islam two years ago at the Islamic Center of Merced and wanted to "join the cause against darul kuffar," a derogatory Islamic term for unbelievers in Western nations. He had lost custody of his two young children and had immersed himself in Islam. He told undercover agents he supported ISIS-inspired terrorist attacks, such as the 2015 mass shooting in San Bernardino and the October attack in New York. The affidavit said he asked for help obtaining an automatic assault rifle, ammunition, nails, timers, and remote detonators. He completed Marine Corps basic training in 2009, earning a sharpshooter rifle qualification, but was discharged for failing to disclose his history of asthma. Agents searching his home found a handwritten letter by Abdallah Abu Everitt Ibn Gordon al-Amriki in which he pledged his devotion to the "Lions of Islam," observing, "We have penetrated and infiltrated your disgusting country," and condemned President Trump's recent recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. They also found an envelope containing "the Last Will and Testament of Everitt Aaron," two rifles, a handgun, ammunition and fireworks. The court set a December 28 detention hearing and a preliminary hearing for January 5, 2018. He faced 20 years in prison and a $250,000 fine. He was represented by public defender Eric Kersten.

**December 23:** *CNN* and *UPI* reported that the Department of Homeland Security deemed a series of shootings targeting law enforcement in Pennsylvania a "terror attack." Police shot to death Ahmed Aminamin el-Mofty, 51, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, after he fired several times at law enforcement officers throughout the city. At 4:10 p.m., he fired several times at a Capitol Police officer's car steps from the state's Capitol building. At 4:40 p.m., he shot and injured a female state trooper, then chased her to a residential neighborhood. He later fired two handguns at several officers who returned fire and killed him. He was a naturalized U.S. citizen who came to the country on a "family-based immigrant visa." He had recently traveled to the Middle East. He became estranged from his wife six years earlier. He worked as a security guard, then lived in Egypt, returning to the U.S. a few months ago.

**December 29:** *CNN* and *WJLA* reported on January 1, 2018, that the FBI raided a home in Sterling, Virginia, during the night as part of an investigation into Sean Andrew Duncan, who attempted to destroy evidence and who allegedly supported ISIS. An affidavit said

the barefoot Duncan "ran out the back door" and threw "a plastic baggie" over the arresting officers' heads. The baggie contained "a memory chip stored within a thumb drive that had been snapped into pieces, and placed in a liquid substance that produced frothy white bubbles."

He had recently traveled to Turkey with his wife, but was deported to the United States. In December 2017, a detained ISIS recruiter showed the FBI a list of handwritten names and phone numbers, which included Duncan's information. In a summer search of his cell phone, authorities found "numerous internet searches for ISIS-related materials," including information on ISIS attacks, weapons, body armor, surveillance and defense tactics, and paintball venues. An unnamed co-conspirator told the FBI in July 2017 that Duncan had connected with her on social media and expressed an interest in joining ISIS and conducting a terrorist attack in the United States; she demurred from going to Syria with Duncan and his wife. In August 2017, an undercover FBI employee spotted an encrypted messaging account associated with Duncan and, posing as a co-conspirator, used the account to ask Duncan if he had any connections in Syria. Duncan replied, "No a couple have been marytred (sic)."

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# Appendix: Updates of Pre-2017 Incidents

## *Africa*

### Ivory Coast

**March 13, 2016:** On February 23, 2017, Senegalese police announced the arrests of two suspected extremists from Mali connected to the deadly attacks on the Grand Bassam beach resort in Ivory Coast on March 13, 2016. One suspect was arrested in Keur Damel, a suburb of Dakar, as he was about to leave the country after staying for about a month. He had been in contact with Ould Nouini, believed to have planned the attack that left 19 people dead, and Moustapha Diatta, a suspected extremist recently imprisoned in Dakar. Police also arrested the suspect's Malian driver.

### Mali

**November 25, 2011:** On May 27, 2017, Beverley McGown, 69, mother of Stephen McGown, a South African tourist who was kidnapped by AQIM from Timbuktu along with a Swede and a Dutch citizen, died after an illness. He remained a hostage. In 2015, gunmen released video of McGown and the Swede, Johan Gustafsson. Gift of the Givers, a South African charity, had tried to secure the release of McGown and Gustafsson since 2015. French special forces freed a third hostage in 2015. Swedish Foreign Affairs Minister Margot Wallstrom announced the release of Johan Gustafsson on June 26, 2017.

On August 3, 2017, *AP* reported that Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen released UK-South African dual national Stephen McGown, 42, on July 25 after holding him for six years. He was kidnapped in 2011 at a hostel in Timbuktu, where he had been traveling as a tourist. South Africa's minister for international relations, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, said the government does not pay ransom. Brian Dube, spokesman for the Ministry of State Security, said Mali's government, non-governmental groups and other individuals were involved in negotiations. In June 2017, AQIM had released Swedish national Johan Gustafsson, who was kidnapped with McGown in November 2011. Swedish officials denied that a ransom had been paid. A Dutch tourist kidnapped with them was freed in a French raid in 2015. In early July 2017, McGown was included in a proof-of-life video released by the al-Qaeda-linked group in Mali. On August 10, 2017, Johan Gustafsson, 42, held a press conference at the Swedish Library Association in Stockholm, saying he converted to Islam "to save my life." He said he was on a motorcycle tour of Africa when he was kidnapped. He was held in a remote area, making escape "out of the question."

### Nigeria

**April 14, 2014:** On January 5, 2017, *AP* reported that soldiers interrogating more than 1,000 captured Boko Haram suspects found one of the Chibok schoolgirls along with her 6-month-old baby. Army spokesman Colonel Sani Kukasheka Usman identified the girl as Rakiya Abubakar.

*AP* reported on May 6, 2017, that Boko Haram released 82 Chibok schoolgirl hostages "for some Boko Haram suspects held by the authorities," according to a government statement. The schoolgirls were found near the border town of Banki in Borno State near Cameroon. The government thanked the government of Switzerland and the International Committee of the Red Cross for their role in the negotiations. Whereabouts of 113 hostage girls remained unknown. *AP* later reported that five BH prisoners were freed. On May 17, 2017, *UPI* reported that a kidnapped Chibok girl escaped. Among the freed Chibok girls were Esther Joshua and Yahi Bwata.

**November 24, 2014:** On March 30, 2017, *AP* reported that 501 children kidnapped by Boko Haram in Damasak on November 24, 2014, remained missing.

## Somalia

**August 2008:** *AP* reported on October 5, 2017, that the trial in Canada began of Somali Ali Omar Ader, alias Adam, alias The Commander, 40, accused of kidnapping by masked gunmen of Canadian freelance journalist Amanda Lindhout, 36, who was held for 460 days. She said she was repeatedly sexually assaulted and beaten. The gunmen captured her and Australian photographer Nigel Brennan near Mogadishu in August 2008. They were released in November 2009 in exchange for a ransom payment. Her story was published in *A House in the Sky*. Ader pleaded not guilty to hostage-taking for his alleged role as a negotiator. Canadian police arrested him in Ottawa in June 2015, luring him to Canada through an elaborate scheme to sign a purported book-publishing deal. Prosecutors said Ader twice told undercover investigators that he was the negotiator in the kidnapping and that he was paid $10,000. They said he took part in several telephone calls with Lindhout's mother to demand payment for her daughter's release. Lindhout said Ader claimed Allah had put it into his heart to ask for a ransom. Her mother was earning minimum wage working at a bakery, and her father was on long-term disability. Lindhout told her captors they might as well kill her now. Adam asked her: "Are you ready to die?" She said she was moved to 13 different places, often in filthy conditions, once with rats "crawling all over my body."

**2015:** On January 17, 2017, al-Shabaab released a video showing the killing of Ugandan soldier Masassa M.Y., who was kidnapped during an attack on an African Union peacekeeping base in Janale in 2015. He was sitting handcuffed with someone holding a gun near the back of his head. The extremist group killed another kidnapped soldier from Janale in November 2015. 15999901

**November 2016:** On March 13, 2017, a Somali military court sentenced to death Abdulkadir Abdi Hassan, an al-Shabaab terrorist found guilty of bombing Mogadishu's Beerta Market in November 2016 and killing at least 30 people. Two other alleged al-Shabaab members, Mohamed Abdullahi Nageye and Cabdinasir Omar Hassan, received sentences of 15 years in prison for collaborating with Hassan. Four other suspects in the market bombing were acquitted.

# *Asia*

## Bangladesh

**2000:** On August 21, 2017, *AP* reported that on August 20, 2017, Judge Mamtaz Begum of a court in Dhaka sentenced to death by firing squad ten leaders and activists from the banned Harkatul Jihad-al-Islami group for a 2000 plot to kill Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina by planting bombs at one of her rallies. Two bombs were found a day before Hasina was scheduled to address a rally at a college campus in Kotalipara. Defense attorneys said they would appeal. The court acquitted ten suspects for lack of evidence.

Prosecutors said the group's previous leader, Mufti Abdul Hannan, was involved in the plot. Hannan was hanged in April 2017 for his involvement in a 2004 grenade attack on a British diplomat in Bangladesh. He studied in India and Pakistan, and fought against the Soviets in Afghanistan in the 1980s before returning to Bangladesh.

**2004:** On April 12, 2017, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan announced that Harkatul Jihad chief Mufti Hannan and an accomplice were hanged at Kashimpur Jail outside Dhaka for their involvement in a grenade attack against then–British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury at a popular Islamic shrine in 2004 that killed three people and wounded several others. The main target narrowly escaped. The third man was executed in Sylhet district. The High Court and the Supreme Court had upheld their death sentences given by a trial court in 2008. Hannan joined the war in Afghanistan against the Soviets and was injured there in 1990. He had studied in Pakistan.

**April 17, 2014:** On January 16, 2017, *AP* reported that Judge Sayed Enayet Hossain sentenced 26 people, including a politician and three officials of an elite security battalion, to death in the politically motivated killings of seven people, including a senior official and a lawyer in Narayanganj, in 2014. Judge Hossain found them guilty of abducting and killing the victims. Nine other defendants were sentenced to up to 17 years in jail.

Nur Hossain, a ruling Awami League party member, was found guilty of hiring a local commander and members of the elite Rapid Action Battalion to kill his rival, Nazrul Islam, a panel mayor in the local city corporation. A lawyer had filmed the abduction on the street, and the assailants then kidnapped the lawyer and his driver and killed them.

Hossain allegedly controlled many establishments and illicit drug businesses. He had fled to India, where he was arrested and sent back to Bangladesh in 2015.

The victims went missing on April 27, 2014. On April 30, 2014, their bodies began appearing floating in a river, their stomachs cut open.

Area battalion chief Lieutenant Colonel Tarque Sayeed Mohammad was sentenced to death. He was a son-in-law of a government minister. He planned and conducted the abductions and murders. The defendants facing death also included an army major and a lieutenant commander.

**February 2015:** On November 19, 2017, *Reuters* reported Deputy Police Commissioner Masudur Rah-

man said that counterterrorism police in suburban Dhaka arrested Mojammel Hossain, 25, head of the intelligence wing of the al Qaeda-inspired Ansar Ullah Bangla Team, who was wanted in connection with the death in 2015 of Avijit Roy, a U.S. blogger of Bangladeshi origin critical of religious extremism. Machete-wielding terrorists killed Roy, who was returning home with his wife from a Dhaka book fair. Roy's widow, Rafida Ahmed, was seriously injured, including losing her thumb. Another suspected murderer of Roy was arrested earlier in November 2017.

*Reuters* reported on November 24, 2017, that Bangladesh police in suburban Dhaka arrested Arafat Rahman, 24, a member the Ansar Ullah Bangla Team, for the Roy murder. A police official said Rahman "confessed his involvement in the killing of four other secular activists."

**October 2015:** On February 28, 2017, *AP* reported that Judge Noresh Chandra Sarker in Rangpur district sentenced five members of the banned Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh for the slaying of Japanese agricultural researcher Kunio Hoshi while he was riding in a rickshaw to his grass farm in Rangpur in October 2015. He acquitted a sixth JMB defendant. Four of the defendants were in custody; another man was tried in absentia. IS had claimed credit.

**July 1, 2016:** On January 6, 2017, *AP* reported that security officials killed Nurul Islam Marzan in a shootout. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said Saddam Hossain, an accomplice of Marzan, also died. Police had said earlier that Marzan was one of the leaders of the July 1, 2016, attack on a Dhaka restaurant where 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners, were killed. Khan said Marzan was involved in many killings, including that of a Japanese citizen in northern Bangladesh in recent years. Police said Marzan was a leader of Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh. On January 14, 2017, *AP* reported that Monirul Islam, head of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said that counterterrorism police had arrested Jahangir Alam, 35, alias Rajib, alias Gandhi, a suspected mastermind in a raid in Tangail district the previous night. Police said Alam was linked with Tamim Chowdhury, a Canadian of Bangladesh origin and the planner of the group, who was killed in August 2016 in a raid near Dhaka. *AP* reported on July 8, 2017, that police in northwestern Chapainawabganj district arrested a suspected key supplier of explosives and key planner in the July 1, 2016, attack on the Holey Artisan Bakery that killed 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners. Sohel Mahfuz was arrested with three other suspected members of Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh (JMB).

## China

**April 22, 2015:** On January 8, 2017, *Tianshan Net* reported that three alleged assailants wanted in relation with an April 22, 2015, terrorist incident were killed by authorities in the Xinjiang region after resisting arrest.

## India

**1993:** On June 16, 2017, *AP* and *UPI* reported that the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act court in Mumbai convicted six Muslims on charges of criminal conspiracy, transporting weapons and murder for their involvement in a 1993 attack in Mumbai in which twelve bombs packed in cars, scooters and suitcases killed 257 people and injured 713. They faced death sentences. Sentencing was scheduled for the next week. *UPI* reported that a seventh suspect was acquitted. They were the second group to be tried in the blasts. Some 123 people were found guilty in the first trial in 2007. Eleven people were sentenced to death. The bombings aimed to avenge the demolition of the 16th century Babri Masjid mosque by Hindus in northern India in 1992. That triggered religious riots that killed more than 800, mostly Muslims. The bombs hit the stock exchange, Air India building, hotels, a cinema and shopping bazaars. Prosecutors said the mastermind was underworld kingpin Dawood Ibrahim, whom Indian officials believed was hiding in Pakistan. Another 33 were people wanted by police in connection with the bombings.

On September 7, 2017, *AP* reported that the Bombay City Civil and Sessions Course in Mumbai sentenced two men to death and two others to life in prison for a series of bombings of the stock exchange, Air India building, hotels, a cinema and shopping bazaars that killed 257 people in Mumbai in 1993. A fifth man was given ten years in prison. The five men were convicted of criminal conspiracy and murder by planting a dozen bombs in cars, scooters and suitcases. An initial trial ended in 2007 with more than 100 people convicted, of whom eleven were sentenced to death and the rest to various terms in prison. Chief prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam could not ask for a death sentence for prime suspect Abu Salem because he was extradited from Portugal to India in 2005 after the Indian government pledged he would not be given the death penalty. Salem was sentenced to life in prison for transporting weapons, including AK-56 assault rifles, ammunition and hand grenades, from Gujarat State to Mumbai before the attacks.

**2007:** On March 22, 2017, *AP* reported that a court in Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan State, sentenced two Hindu hard-liners to life in prison for triggering an explosion at a Muslim shrine in Ajmer, a Muslim pilgrimage center, that killed three people and injured more than a dozen in 2007. A third convict in the case died after the explosion. Two of the convicts were former preachers of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (National Volunteer Corps), a Hindu group accused of stoking religious hatred against Muslims. India's governing Bharatiya Janata Party is a political

wing of the RSS. Lashkar-e-Taiba was initially suspected.

**November 26–28, 2008:** *UPI* reported that on January 30, 2017, Pakistan put Hafiz Saeed, leader of Jamaat-ud-Dawah, and four other members of the group under preventive custody. Authorities believed he masterminded the November 2008 Mumbai attack. Jamaat-ud-Dawah, a charity, was often called a front for the jihadi Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, which Saeed founded.

**June 29, 2016:** The *New York Times* reported on February 5, 2017, that police had arrested eight members of an IS cell that planned an attack in Hyderabad. Among the detainees was young engineer Mohammed Ibrahim Yazdani, whose brothers, Mohammed Ibrahim and Ilyas, were accused of being members of an IS cell in India.

## Indonesia

**November 2016:** On September 25, 2017, Presiding Judge Surung Simanjuntak at the East Jakarta District Court sentenced IS sympathizer Juhanda to life imprisonment for throwing a Molotov cocktail at Oikumene Church in Samarinda, the provincial capital of East Kalimantan province on the island of Borneo in November 2016, killing 2-year-old girl Ade Intan Marbun and injuring three other children. Juhanda was convicted in 2011 for terrorism offenses but released in July 2014.

In a separate trial, Simanjuntak also sentenced coconspirators Supriyadi, Ahmad Dani, Rahmad and Joko Sugito to prison terms ranging from six to seven years. All of the five had pledged allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and promised to carry out amaliyah, an Arabic term that means suicide bombing in terrorist circles, Simanjuntak said.

## Japan

**1971:** *UPI* reported on June 7, 2017, that circa May 23, 2017, police in Hiroshima arrested leftist fugitive Masaaki Osaka. Tokyo police formally served an arrest warrant against him for killing a 21-year-old police officer with a Molotov cocktail in 1971 in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward, to criticize Japan recognizing the American military presence in the country. Police said Osaka assaulted the officer with a steel pipe prior to setting him on fire. Japan lifted the statute of limitations for murder in 2010. Osaka was a senior member of the Chukakuha (Japan Revolutionary Communist League). He was initially arrested on charges of police obstruction but authorities later used DNA to connect him to the 1971 killing. An accomplice was charged in 1972, but the case was suspended due to mental illness.

## Malaysia

**July 2016:** On March 23, 2017, *AP* reported that two ill Malaysian sailors, Tayudin Anjut, 45, and Abdurahim Bin Sumas, 62, held captive for eight months by Abu Sayyaf, were rescued by Philippine Marines before dawn in waters near Sulu Province's Pata Island. The two were among five Malaysian tugboat crewmen kidnapped in July 2016 off Malaysia's Sabah State near the southern Philippines. The kidnappers abandoned the duo without a fight as a naval patrol closed in.

**November 19, 2016:** Abu Sayyaf kidnapped boat crewmen Sarapuddin Koni and Sawal Maryam in waters off Sabah, Malaysia. Philippine troops found them on a vehicle in Indanan in Sulu Province on September 7, 2017. They were brought to a hospital for an exam. Just before their rescue, troops clashed with 20 Abu Sayyaf gunmen in Talipao in Sulu, killing five terrorists. Five soldiers were wounded.

## Pakistan

**December 2007:** *AP* reported on August 31, 2017, that a Pakistani court sentenced two former police officers, Saud Aziz and Khurram Shahzad, to 17 years in prison for failing to protect former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. However, the court acquitted five suspected militants who had confessed to taking part in her December 2007 assassination when a suicide bomber hit her motorcade as she was campaigning to replace then–President Pervez Musharraf. The judge ordered Musharraf's property seized after he failed to appear in court.

**2009:** *Reuters* reported that a March 20, 2017, drone attack on a car in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, killed four people, including Qari Mohammad Yasin, alias Ustad Aslam, a Pakistani terrorist who was accused of involvement in a deadly Lashkar-e-Jhangvi attack in Lahore on a bus carrying Sri Lanka's cricket team in 2009. Ten terrorists had shot at the bus with rifles, grenades and rockets, wounding six players and a British coach, and killing eight Pakistanis. Local media said Yasin specialized in training suicide bombers. Pakistan's Counter-Terrorism Department had offered a bounty of 2 million rupees ($19,000) for Yasin. Ali bin Sufyan, spokesman for the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi offshoot al-Alami, which has cooperated with ISIS, confirmed the death. Pakistani police in 2006 killed three other terrorists involved in the 2009 attack.

**2014:** On May 24, 2017, *AP* reported that prison authorities executed two members of the Pakistani Taliban for involvement in a 2014 school attack that killed 150 people, mostly schoolchildren. A military court had sentenced Atta Ullah and Taj Mohammad to death for their role in the attack on the school in Peshawar.

## Philippines

**October 20, 2016:** On January 14, 2017, *AP* reported that Abu Sayyaf freed South Korean hostage Park

Chul-hong and Filipino hostage Glen Alindajao, who were kidnapped by ten gunmen on October 20, 2016. AS had sought a ransom. AS handed the duo over to Moro National Liberation Front rebels, who turned them over to Philippine officials in Jolo in Sulu Province. It was not clear whether a ransom was paid.

**November 2016:** On July 5, 2017, *AP* reported that villagers in Sumisip found the decapitated bodies of Hoang Thong and Hoang Va Hai, two of six Vietnamese crewmen abducted from the Vietnamese cargo vessel MV Royal 16 in November 2016 by suspected Abu Sayyaf terrorists in sea waters off Basilan island. One of the six crewmen was rescued in June 2017. The other three remained captive. During the evening of August 20, 2017, Philippine soldiers rescued Vietnamese kidnap victim Do Trung Hieu on Mataja island in Basilan. He was one of six Vietnamese crewmembers of a ship who were captured by the ransom-seeking terrorists near Sibago island off Basilan in November 2016.

*Radio Free Asia* reported on December 11, 2017, that Abu Sayyaf (Bearers of the Sword) kidnapers executed Vietnamese hostage Pham Minh Tuan, the captain of the M/V Royal 16, after holding him captive for more than a year in the southern Philippines. His body was recovered in a coastal village on Jolo island the previous weekend. The ship was carrying cement from northeastern Vietnam to the Philippines when it was attacked off Basilan island. The boat had 19 crew members aboard; the attackers took six of them, including the captain, hostage. Following the recovery of Tuan's body, the military launched pursuit operations that led to a clash in Panamao in Sulu, where three Abu Sayyaf suspects were killed.

**November 7, 2016:** Gunmen kidnapped German Jurgen Gustav Kantner while sailing off Malaysia's Sabah State. They killed his wife, Sabine Merz, during the attack on their 53-foot *Rockall* yacht. *AP* reported on February 14, 2017, that Kantner, 71, said in a two-minute video that Abu Sayyaf threatened to behead him if a 30 million peso ($605,000) ransom was not paid by February 26. He had also been kidnapped by Somali pirates and held for two months in before a ransom was paid. The deadline lapsed without a ransom payment. On February 26, 2017, *AP* reported that AS posted a 103-second video showing Kantner's beheading. The video showed a sitting Kantner saying, "they kill me now" and a man with a curved knife then sawing his head off. A few gunmen chanted "Allahu Akbar." *AP* reported that AS leader Moammar Askali had wanted Kantner to be murdered. *Reuters* reported on March 4, 2017, that Philippine soldiers found the head and body of Jurgen Kantner during combat, search and retrieval operations in Indanan town in Sulu Province. Authorities believed Abu Sayyaf commander Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan and his nephew, Mujil Yadah, Moammar Askali and Idang Susukan were involved. 16110701

### South Korea

**1969:** *UPI* reported on December 28, 2017, that South Korean citizen Hwang In-cheol, 50, who had petitioned his government for decades to bring his father home from North Korea, said he had proof that his father, 80, who was one of the 50 hostages in a Korean Air Lines plane hijacking in 1969, is alive. Hwang's father, a television producer, was among the eleven people who were held for decades.

### Taiwan

**July 7, 2016:** *AP* and the *Central News Agency* reported that a pipe bomb exploded on a commuter train car in Taipei, injuring 24 people, some seriously. *AFP* reported on February 22, 2017, that the Taipei district court sentenced Lin Ying-chang, 56, a Taiwanese man, to 30 years on charges of attempted murder and making an explosive without a permit in a botched suicide attempt. The court said he was "taking his revenge on society by means of killing innocent people." Lin was injured in the blast. He said he could not find a job after being diagnosed with cancer, had lived in his car, and become estranged from his family. The court said that Lin believed that "society should be responsible for him."

### Thailand

**2015:** *Reuters* reported on November 21, 2017, that Thai police in Bangkok airport arrested Wanna Suansan, 29, a woman wanted in connection with a 2015 bombing of a shrine in Bangkok popular with Chinese visitors that killed 20 people, including 14 foreign tourists, including five people from mainland China and two from Hong Kong and wounded more than 120. She faced charges of premeditated murder and co-possession of explosives and weapons. Another 16 people were wanted in connection with the bombing. Police said she rented a room in Bangkok to one of two ethnic Muslim Uighur men from China who were accused of carrying out the bomb attack and were in 2017 on trial in Thailand.

## *Europe*

### Belgium

**May 24, 2014:** *AP* reported on September 21, 2017, that Henri Laquay and Sebastien Courtoy, the attorneys for Mehdi Nemmouche, a French suspect in the Brussels Jewish museum attack on May 24, 2014, that killed four people said that their imprisoned client was going blind and deaf, could have a brain tumor and was being denied medical treatment. Nemmouche was charged with terrorism offenses but had been in solitary confinement without trial for three years. Nemmouche appeared in court on September 19, 2017, and was ordered to be held in custody for another two months. Nicolas Henin, a French journalist

held hostage for months by terrorists in Syria, said Nemmouche was one of his captors and sadistically mistreated prisoners.

On November 15, 2017, *AP* reported that the Versailles Court of Appeal, near Paris, charged Mehdi Nemmouche in a case in Syria. The French citizen was also accused of a deadly 2014 shooting at a Brussels Jewish museum. He was represented by attorney Francis Vuillemin. The preliminary charges of "kidnapping and illegal sequestration with links to a terrorist enterprise" relate to allegations Nemmouche was the jailer of four French journalists held in Syria between June 2013 and May 2014.

**March 22, 2016:** On June 6, 2017, *AP* reported that Belgian authorities raided 14 locations in and around Brussels and detained a dozen people in an investigation of the March 22, 2016, attacks on the airport and subway system that killed 32 people.

On October 11, 2017, Belgian authorities charged Belgian citizen Brahim T., 39, with "participation in the activities of a terrorist group, terrorist murder, attempted terrorist murder," either in a direct role or as an accomplice in the suicide bomb attack on the Brussels airport.

## France

**September 1974:** On March 13, 2017, the trial began of Venezuelan-born Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, alias Carlos the Jackal, 67, on first-degree murder charges for the September 1974 grenade attack in the Paris shopping mall Drugstore Publicis that killed two and injured dozens. He was serving a life sentence in France for a series of murders and attacks he perpetrated or organized in the country on behalf of the Palestinian cause or communist revolution. He was convicted by French courts in 1997, 2011 and 2013. On March 27, Prosecutor Remi Crosson du Cormier requested a third life sentence. His long-time lawyer and fiancé, Isabelle Coutant-Peyre, denied the charges. On March 28, 2017, the five judges convicted and sentenced Carlos to a third life term.

**2012:** *AP* reported on October 2, 2017, that the Paris trial began of Abdelkader Merah, 35, older brother of Mohammed Merah, 23, who killed three Jewish schoolchildren, a teacher, and three paratroopers, including two Muslims, in Toulouse in 2012. He was charged with complicity in terrorist murders. He faced life in prison. Samuel Sandler, whose son Jonathan and his grandchildren Gabriel and Arieh were killed, deemed the attackers "rotten people who rot in a hole." An early November verdict was expected. He was represented by attorney Eric Dupond-Moretti.

On November 2, 2017, a Paris court sentenced French-Algerian Abdelkader Merah to 20 years in prison for terrorism ties. It found Abdelkader not guilty of complicity in Mohammed's deadly 2012 attacks on a Jewish school and French paratroopers that killed three Jewish schoolchildren, a rabbi and three paratroopers in the Toulouse and Montauban region. Abdelkader was accused of radicalizing Mohammed. Prosecutors said they would appeal the court decision.

**August 2015:** On October 9, 2017, French authorities detained two people regarding the attempted 2015 ISIS attack by Ayoub el-Khazzani on a high-speed train from Amsterdam to Paris.

On October 30, 2017, *AP* reported that four people were detained in Belgium in connection with the attack. Two were released after questioning. Police searched six houses in the Brussels area and in southern Belgium, but found no arms or explosives.

On October 31, 2017, Belgium's Federal Prosecutor's Office charged two Belgians with terror-related offenses in connection with the attack. Mohamed B. was accused of leading a terrorist group and Youssef S. of being part of it.

On November 9, 2017, *AP* reported that the British ambassador to France, Lord Ed Llewellyn, bestowed the Queen's Commendation for Bravery on Chris Norman, who with three Americans overpowered a jihadi with an assault rifle who tried to open fire on a Thalys train traveling from Amsterdam to Paris. Clint Eastwood was making a movie about "The 15:17 to Paris." Norman, the three Americans, a French-American man and another Frenchman were awarded France's Legion of Honor.

**November 13, 2015:** *CNN* reported on January 12, 2017, that Belgium's Federal Prosecutor said that two suspects were charged in connection with the November 2015 Paris attacks. The duo was accused of providing false documents to Khalid el-Bakraoui, who also who carried out the Brussels Airport and metro attacks in March 2016. One of the two suspects was identified as Farid K., who was accused of participation in the activities of a terrorist group, forgery and the use of forgery in writing. Meryem E. B. was charged with forgery and the use of forgery in writing.

*UPI* reported on January 30, 2017, that French federal prosecutors formally charged Mohamed Abrini, a suspect in the ISIS March 22, 2016, Brussels bombings, for his alleged role in the November 13, 2015, Paris attacks. He was represented by attorney Emmanuel Pierrat.

*AP* reported on March 9, 2017, that French authorities issued arrest warrants for two more suspects, Belgium-Moroccan Oussama Atar, 32 and Sofien Ayari, 23, a Tunisian, in the November 2015 attacks. *Le Monde* said French magistrates issued the arrest warrants in late December 2016. Atar was suspected of being a planner of the attacks from Syria. Ayari was being detained in Belgium.

On June 2, 2017, *AP* reported that Belgian prosecutors charged Belgian citizen Yassine Atar, 30, with "terrorist assassination" and being "a leader in the activities of a terrorist group" released to the November 13, 2015, ISIS attacks in Paris that killed 130 people. He was arrested on March 27, 2016, and was a cousin of two bombers, brothers Ibrahim and Khalid Bakraoui. He was also the brother of a supposed mastermind of the Paris plot, Oussama Atar.

On September 8, 2017, *AP* reported that six judges ordered Jawad Bendaoud, media alias "the lodger," and another man to stand trial for allegedly providing housing in Saint Denis to Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the suspected ringleader of the November 2015 Paris attacks. They faced ten years in prison.

## Germany

**July 28, 1996:** *DPA* reported that the Osnabrueck state court said on July 12, 2017, that the trial would begin on July 26 of James Anthony Oliver Corry, 48, a Briton from Belfast, on attempted murder charges stemming from involvement in an Irish Republican Army attack on a British barracks in Osnabrueck, Germany in 1996. Prosecutors alleged he was in an IRA unit that fired three mortar shells onto the grounds of the Quebec Barracks.

On October 25, 2017, *AP* reported that a German court convicted Corry of attempted murder for participating in the IRA attack and sentenced him to four years in prison. The Republic of Ireland extradited Corry in December 2016 to face German charges. One shell exploded on the property, damaging buildings and vehicles but injuring no one.

**July 27, 2000:** A pipe bomb tore through the entrance tunnel to the Duesseldorf-Wehrhahn commuter train station, injuring ten immigrants from the former Soviet Union, six of them Jews. Right-wing extremists were suspected. The victims were on their way home from a German-language class. A 26-year-old woman from Ukraine suffered a miscarriage. On February 1, 2017, police arrested a 50-year-old man in Ratingen. *Spiegel Online* reported that he was known at the time for having far-right views and operating a store selling military gear near the site of the bombing. 00072701

**May 2015:** Police arrested a group of right-wingers in May 2015 and confiscated weapons and illegal fireworks at their homes. On March 15, 2017, a Munich court found four members of the Oldschool Society guilty of forming a far-right terrorist group in Germany with the plan to bomb refugee homes and sentenced them to prison terms. Ringleader Andreas H., from Augsburg, was sentenced to four and a half years. Deputy leader Markus W., 41, received five years; his girlfriend, Denise G., 24, received three years and 10 months. Both are from Saxony State. Group spokesman Olaf G. from Bochum was sentenced to three years.

**August 2015:** On February 9, 2017, *DPA* reported that German judge Theodor Horstkoetter in a Potsdam court convicted a neo–Nazi National Democratic Party politician Maik Schneider, 29, to eight years for arson in burning down a gym in Nauen, west of Berlin, intended as housing for refugees, and an additional 18 months for separate offenses. A second defendant was sentenced to eight years for the arson. Another four received suspended sentences ranging from eight months to two years. Schneider said that the fire was to char the building, not destroy it. *AFP* reported that the arson caused property damage worth 3.5 million euros ($3.7 million). *Spiegel Online* said prosecutors had charged that the six men had formed a criminal organization by coordinating their actions via *WhatsApp*. They had also torched the car of a Polish citizen, bombed a supermarket, and threw a bag of paint at the office of a leftist politician.

**October 17, 2015:** On January 9, 2017, a German Federal Court of Justice rejected far-right extremist Frank S.'s appeal of his 14-year sentence for the October 17, 2015, attempted murder of Henriette Reker, who is now Cologne's mayor. He was convicted by a Duesseldorf court in July 2016 for stabbing her in the neck.

**February 2016:** Safia S., 15, was arrested for stabbing a police officer with a kitchen knife in Hannover's main train station at the behest of ISIS. *DPA* reported on January 26, 2017, that the German-Moroccan dual citizen, now 16, was convicted and sentenced by the Celle state court to six years in prison. She traveled to Istanbul a year ago hoping to reach Syria but was brought back by her mother.

**March 22, 2016:** Authorities in Potsdam, outside Berlin, arrested Syrian citizen Shaas E.M., 19, on suspicion that he joined ISIS in his Syrian home village in mid–2013 and maintained membership until August 2015. Prosecutors said he took part in various IS military operations and later transported food between bases. On October 27, 2016, *AP* reported that German prosecutors claimed that Syrian migrant Shaas al-M. surveilled potential sites in Berlin for an attack by ISIS and recruited at least one person to fight in Syria. He underwent military training and performed guard duties for the group before leaving for Germany in mid–2015. He was charged in mid–October 2016 with membership in a foreign terrorist organization and breaking arms control laws.

On January 4, 2017, the trial began of Shaas al-Mohammad, 20, a Syrian asylum-seeker, on charges of IS membership, violating weapons laws, and scouting out Berlin landmarks for a possible attack. Federal prosecutor Gerwin Moldenhauer said that al-Mohammad joined ISIS in 2013 in Syria, where he underwent military training. He then allegedly performed armed guard duty during the siege of Deir

el-Zour, Syria and its airport in 2013 and 2014, and also helped transport supplies for the group. Prosecutors said he remained with ISIS after coming to Germany as an asylum-seeker in summer 2015. Phone records, *WhatsApp* messages and other evidence showed that he sent ISIS details about tourist groups visiting Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, Alexanderplatz and the Reichstag parliament. Prosecutors said that he recruited at least one new member, offered himself as a contact for extremists planning attacks in Germany, and even offered to carry out an attack himself or return to Syria to fight for ISIS. He was arrested on March 22, 2016. His attorney Tarig Elobied said al-Mohammad was a member of Jund ar-Rahman, who had no motivation to carry out attacks in Germany. He faced a sentence of five years if convicted under juvenile law, or ten years if convicted under adult law.

**February 5, 2016:** Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at the entrance of a shopping mall in Hannover in an effort to kill "infidels." The diesel fuel firebombs failed to ignite, but sideswiped two people. No one was hurt and no damage was reported. On March 30, 2016, prosecutors in Celle charged Saleh S., 18, a radicalized man, with attempted murder. He is the elder brother of Safia S., 16, who was convicted in January 2017 of stabbing and wounding a police officer at the behest of ISIS.

**April 16, 2016:** On March 21, 2017, the Essen State Court convicted three 17-year-olds from Essen of participating in the April 16, 2016, bombing of a Sikh temple that was motivated by hatred of other religions. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging between six and seven years. The radicalized trio had been in contact with Salafists, but not ISIS. T. and B. were convicted of attempted murder and bodily harm by placing a fire extinguisher filled with explosives outside an entrance to the temple. A cleric suffered a broken foot and several other people suffered cuts. T. was sentenced to seven years; B. to six years and nine months. Defendant I. was not at the scene of the bombing or involved in making the bomb but had agreed with the other two to carry out an attack and had suggested the Sikh temple as a possible target. He was convicted of conspiracy to murder and sentenced to six years. The boys were tried as juveniles.

**May 2016:** On March 7, 2017, *DPA* reported that the Zwickau state court convicted a man, 32, of 15 counts of attempted murder and attempted arson in eastern Germany for a petrol bomb attack on an asylum seekers' home, sentencing him to four years and three months in prison. The court said the right-winger threw two of the homemade bombs at the home in May 2016.

**October 2016:** On August 29, 2017, *AP* reported that Wolfgang P., an alleged member of the Reich Citizens Movement, an anti-government extremist group which refuses to acknowledge the authority of Germany's post-war federal republic, went on trial at the state court in Nuremberg for murder and attempted murder over the fatal shooting of a police officer as authorities tried to confiscate the suspect's hoard of firearms in October 2016 in Georgensgmuend in Bavaria. One officer died and two were wounded.

On October 23, 2017, *DPA* reported that the Nuremberg state court convicted alleged anti-government extremist Wolfgang P., 50, of murder and two counts of attempted murder and sentenced him to life in prison for the fatal shooting of a police officer and injuries to two others.

**December 19, 2016:** On January 4, 2017, German prosecutors said that an acquaintance of suspected Berlin Christmas market attacker Anis Amri who dined with him the night before the attack was under investigation for possible participation in planning the attack. He was arrested in a separate case for allegedly falsely claiming benefits. The 26-year-old Tunisian had known Amri since late 2015. Police searched his quarters at a refugee home on January 3, 2017. Police said that "communications devices" seized in the search were being evaluated. Police also searched the home of a one-time roommate of Amri who was being treated as a witness in the case.

Surveillance footage from the Zoologischer Garten station, a few minutes' walk from the Christmas market, appears to show Amri shortly after the attack. Police said the pictures "suggest that Amri was aware that he was being recorded by this video camera." He turned to the camera and showed a "tawhid finger," a raised index finger—an Islamic gesture sometimes used by jihadis.

The *Washington Post* reported on January 5, 2017, that German authorities knew of 14 different identities used by Anis Amri.

*Berliner Morgenpost* reported on October 20, 2017, that Anis Amri may have been incited by a police informant in North-Rhine Westphalia State codenamed VP-01, who was suspected of having encouraged several Islamic extremists to carry out violent attacks.

## Macedonia

**2015:** On November 2, 2017, at the end of a 20-month trial, a court convicted 33 people of being members of an ethnic Albanian militant group and planning terrorist attacks. They were picked up in 2015 during a police raid in the border town of Kumanovo that killed eight officers and ten gunmen. Seven defendants were sentenced to life; another 13 to 40 years in prison; others to twelve to 20 years. Four men were cleared. Prosecutors had sought life sentences for all 37 defendants. The indictment said that the gunmen had crossed the Kosovo border and

planned attacks on government sites in northern Macedonia. They had stolen weapons from an army border post, and fired on police while officers were carrying out searches. The gunmen used assault rifles, rocket-propelled grenades, and hand grenades in a densely built-up neighborhood. Ten houses were destroyed in the fighting. Some defendants were from Kosovo and others were ethnic Albanians from Macedonia. Defense lawyers, including Naser Raufi, said they would appeal.

On November 3, 2017, a court sentenced alleged ethnic Albanian gunman Sulejman Osmani to life in prison for being a key organizer of the 2015 gun battle. He was tried separately and sentenced following his extradition from Kosovo.

## Norway

**July 2011:** On March 1, 2017, the Borgarting Court of Appeal ruled that mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik, 37, "has not been subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment" by being in solitary confinement at Telemark prison in Skien. The appeals court reversed a 2016 lower court ruling. Defense lawyer Oystein Storrvikk said that Breivik would appeal to Norway's Supreme Court and possibly to the European Court of Human Rights.

On June 8, 2017, *AP* reported that the Hoeyesterett court upheld the January 2017 ruling by the Borgarting Court of Appeal that Norway did not violate mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik's human rights by isolating him in jail. He was represented by defense lawyer Oystein Storrvikk, who planned to appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. The *Verdens Gang* newspaper on June 9, 2017, cited the central National Registry as indicating that Breivik, 38, had legally changed his name to Fjotolf Hansen.

On June 29, 2017, attorney Oeystein Storrvik said Breivik/Hansen had appealed the recent ruling to the European Court of Human Rights.

## Poland

**July 2016:** Authorities in Lodz arrested Iraqi citizen Sinan al-Haboubi when they found trace amounts of an explosive. *AP* reported on March 16, 2017, that authorities extended his imprisonment until mid–May, though strict security measures were lifted. His family argued that the chemicals were in paint that accidentally stuck to his suitcase. He was represented by attorney Lukasz Banatkiewicz.

## Russia

**October 22, 2002:** *Radio Free Europe* reported that on March 21, 2017, the Moscow Regional Military Court sentenced Khasan Zakayev to 19 years for assisting Chechen terrorists in the October 22, 2002, hostage-taking attack on the Dubrovka theater during a performance of the musical Nord-Ost. Zakayev was arrested in March 2015. He pleaded "partially" guilty, acknowledging that he transported guns to Moscow shortly before the assault but had no idea what they were intended to be used for. The terrorists inside the theater were killed, as were 174 hostages, when Russian special forces released a toxic chemical agent and then stormed the building on October 26.

**February 27, 2015:** On June 29, 2017, *AP* reported that a jury found five Chechen men—Temirlan Eskerkhanov, Shadid Gubashev, Khamzat Bakhayev, Anzor Gubashev and Zaur Dadayev—guilty of killing Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov, 55, as he was walking across the Bolshoy Moskovetsky Bridge outside the Kremlin. The jury found suspected triggerman Zaur Dadayev, a former officer in the security forces of Chechnya's leader, guilty of murdering Nemtsov. The other four were found guilty of involvement in the killing by obtaining the murder weapons and driving Dadayev to the crime scene. *AP* reported on July 13, 2017, that Zaur Dadayev was sentenced to 20 years in prison. Four accomplices were sentenced to terms ranging from eleven to 19 years.

## Spain

**October 1977:** On September 23, 2017, *AP* reported that the most parts of the Lufthansa "Landshut" B-737 hijacked en route from Mallorca to Frankfurt and diverted to Somalia by the PFLP were returned to the airport in Friedrichshafen, Germany. A 40th reunion was held by former co-pilot Juergen Vietor, former passenger Diana Muell, and former stewardess Gabriele von Lutzau. *DPA* reported that most parts of the plane will be reassembled and displayed at the Dornier Museum. The other parts were to arrive from Brazil on September 27, 2017. The aircraft ended up in a Brazilian carrier's fleet and had been sitting decommissioned at the country's Fortaleza Airport.

**December 28, 2016:** Two Spaniards were arrested in Madrid on suspicion of possessing arms and praising jihadi terrorism in videos. On January 25, 2017, *AP* reported that National Court magistrate Santiago Pedraz ordered their release, saying evidence against them appeared to have been planted by a troublesome police informer.

## Sweden

**2011:** On July 21, 2017, Spain extradited Ali Charaf Damache, alias Black Flag, 52, an Algerian, to Philadelphia to face federal terrorism charges. He appeared in court on July 21 and was to be arraigned in August for conspiring with two American women, one of them "Jihad Jane," and a high school honors student from Maryland. A 2011 indictment said he was involved in the plan to kill Swedish artist Lars Vilks. Damache married a Colorado woman, Jamie

Paulin-Ramirez, when she traveled to Ireland in 2009. He was arrested in Spain in 2015. Attorney Joseph Mancano was appointed to represent him.

**November 11, 2016:** Neo-Nazis were suspected when a bomb went off outside the Syndikaliskt Forum Kafe in Gothenburg, a well-known far-left hangout, causing no injuries.

## Turkey

**2013:** On March 22, 2017, *AP* reported that Turkey was preparing to request the extradition from the Netherlands of Seher Demir Sen, a female leader of the outlawed leftist Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C), who was alleged to be behind the 2013 suicide bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, which killed a security guard. She had come from Greece and had joined a demonstration outside the German Embassy in The Hague.

**January 10, 2015:** Turkish authorities arrested Muslim convert Tairod Nathan Webster Pugh, 47, a U.S. Air Force veteran and former airplane mechanic who allegedly planned to join ISIS in Syria. On May 31, 2017, *CNN* reported that Pugh was sentenced to 35 years for providing material support to ISIS. He was represented by attorney Eric Creizman.

**October 29, 2015:** *AP* and *Anadolu* reported on August 14, 2017, that Turkish authorities arrested and charged suspected ISIS member Muaz el-Ahsin with killing two Syrian journalists in Turkey on October 29, 2015, by slitting the throats of Ibrahim Abdul-Qadir and Fares Hamadi. Both were journalists for the "Raqqa is being slaughtered silently" collective. Police detained Ahsin on August 11 while he was trying to cross into Turkey illegally. A court later ordered him officially arrested on murder charges. Ahsin fled to Syria after the killings on October 29, 2015. *Anadolu* said that police were searching for other suspects.

**June 28, 2016:** On February 14, 2017, *Anadolu* reported that prosecutors demanded that 41 people accused of involvement in the June 28, 2016, attack at Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport in June be sentenced to several life terms in prison each for attempts to "overthrow the constitutional order" and "premeditated murder." The indictment sought life imprisonment for three at-large suspects who were to be tried in absentia: Nazim Gasanov, Marat Pshnatov and Rustem Efendiev.

On November 13, 2017, the trial in Silivri, outside Istanbul, began against 46 ISIS-linked suspects accused of involvement in the attack by three suspected ISIS gunmen who killed 45 people and injured more than 200. They were charged with murder, attempting to overthrow constitutional order and membership in a terror group, among other charges. Defendants included Russian nationals, among them Chechens, plus Algerian, Tunisian, Egyptian, Syrian and Turkish citizens. The deceased attackers included Vadim Osmanav, Rakhim Bulgarov, and an unidentified man. *Anadolu* reported that the perpetrators thrice surveilled Ataturk airport before the attack. Four suspects remained at large.

*Al-Jazeera* reported on December 1, 2017, that Georgian security services in a special operation in Tblisi killed three gunmen, including Akhmed Chatayev, 37, suspected Chechen mastermind of the bombing. Authorities arrested another suspect. One officer was killed and four wounded during the 20-hour standoff. Interpol reported that he was a senior Russian-speaking ISIS member who trained and led 130 fighters. He lost an arm during the Second Chechen War of 1999–2009. In 2015, the U.S. Treasury imposed sanctions on him for planning attacks against U.S. and Turkish facilities. He was also on a UN sanctions list, and was wanted by Russian authorities for "terrorist crimes committed in its territory."

**December 19, 2016:** On January 10, 2017, *AP* reported that Turkey renamed the street that serves the Russian Embassy after Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov who was killed in an attack in Ankara. *Radio Free Europe* reported on March 6, 2017, that a Russian woman, Yekaterina B., 33, was arrested in Ankara in connection with Karlov's assassination. Turkish media said she was suspected of having contacted police officer Mevlut Altintas, the assassin, and the Russian Cultural Center in Ankara in November. Turkish police earlier arrested four individuals, including a police officer, suspected of involvement in Karlov's killing.

## United Kingdom

**July 2016—UK**—On August 14, 2017, *UPI* reported that Bernard Kenny, 78, who tried to prevent the deadly attack on British MP Jo Cox in July 2016, died. Kenny was stabbed in the abdomen with a ten-inch blade during the attack by right-wing extremist Thomas Mair and never fully recovered. The government awarded Bernard Kenny the George Medal for his bravery. Kenny worked as a miner for 40 years and was a member of the Gomersal Mines Rescue team.

**August 3, 2016:** On February 7, 2017, *The Guardian* reported that Zakaria Bulhan, 19, who suffered from undiagnosed paranoid schizophrenia and who stabbed American tourist Darlene Horton, 64, a special needs teacher, to death and injured five others in Russell Square in central London on August 3, was given an unlimited Broadmoor Hospital order at the Old Bailey by Mr. Justice Spencer under section 37 of the 1983 Mental Health Act. On February 6, 2017, he admitted to manslaughter by diminished responsibility and five charges of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. He was represented by attorney John Jones, QC. Bulhan was born in Norway to

parents who moved from Somalia, and moved to the UK in 2003. He was living in Tooting, south London, with his two siblings, mother and stepfather.

## *Latin America*

### Argentina

**1994:** On December 7, 2017, federal Judge Claudio Bonadio indicted former president and current senator Cristina Fernández de Kirchner on treason charges and sought her arrest over allegations that she covered up possible Iranian involvement in the 1994 Hizballah bombing of the Jewish AIMA community center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 people. Authorities arrested three of Fernández's former aides and associates and placed Héctor Timerman, her former foreign minister, under house arrest.

**January 18, 2015:** On September 23, 2017, *AP* reported that forensic investigators from the border police determined that the 2015 gunshot death of prosecutor Alberto Nisman, who was investigating Argentina's worst terrorist attack, was a homicide, not a suicide. Nisman was found dead in his apartment in 2015, days after accusing then–President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner and other officials of helping Iranian officials cover up an Iranian role in the 1994 bombing of the AIMA Jewish community center that killed 85 people and injured more than 300. On December 26, 2017, *UPI* reported that Judge Julian Ercolini ruled that the 2015 death of prosecutor Alberto Nisman was a homicide and charged IT security expert Diego Lagomarsino with accessory to murder as part of his 656-page ruling. Ercolini said Nisman was killed with a weapon belonging to Lagomarsino, who had admitted the bullet that killed Nisman came from a handgun he owned. De Kirchner, 64, was charged with treason on December 7, 2017. Ercolini indicted four of Nisman's bodyguards, including Ruben Benitez, Nestor Duran, Armando Niz and Luis Mino, for negligence and failing to detect when the shooting happened.

### Chile

**April 1, 1991:** On June 10, 2017, *AP* reported that Mexico's Attorney General's Office announced the capture in Guanajuato State of an alleged leftist Chilean terrorist wanted in connection with the April 1, 1991, murder by the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front of Chilean Senator Jaime Guzman at a campus of Catholic University in Santiago, Chile. Chilean officials identified the gunman as Raul Escobar Poblete, alias Comandante Emilio. The Mexican Attorney General's Office said he had been living with a false Mexican identity.

### Colombia

**1990:** On January 17, 2017, police arrested Jaime Gomez, former bodyguard of then-presidential candidate Carlos Pizarro, who was assassinated on an airliner in 1990 by a gunman who shot him. Gomez killed the assassin. The chief prosecutor's office said Gomez was in on the plot and killed the attacker to silence him.

**November 2016:** On April 24, 2017, *UPI* reported that the National Liberation Army's Cimarrón Guerrilla Front said hostage Voskanya Arcen Levoni, a Russian-Armenian wildlife trafficker, had escaped. The group kidnapped him in November 2016 in the jungle region of the Choco Department while he was "collecting poisonous frogs to traffic them on the international market." ELN said Arcen Levoni disarmed a rebel and attacked the unit, injuring five. He then escaped, injured, near the Alto Baudó municipality in Chocó. The ELN said it had been negotiating with Russia's Embassy in Colombia to release him. 16119901

### Mexico

**February 7, 1985:** On January 13, 2017, *AP* reported that the Federal Judicial Council announced that a Mexican judge had ordered Ernesto "Don Neto" Fonseca Carrillo, 86, co-founder of the Guadalajara cartel who was convicted in the 1985 killings of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena and a government pilot to pay relatives of the victims nearly $1 million in compensation. Fonseca was transferred from prison in July 2016 to serve the remaining nine years of his sentence under house arrest. On March 31, 2017, *AP* reported that a Mexican appeals court ordered the freedom of Fonseca Carrillo, who was released from prison and placed under house arrest in 2016 due to poor health and age. He had nine years remaining on his 40-year sentence.

On August 24, 2017, *AP* reported that a court in Mexico re-sentenced convicted drug lord Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo for the February 27, 1985, killing of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. Felix Gallardo, a co-founder of the Guadalajara cartel, had been serving a 40-year sentence for the murder. The new sentence is 37 years plus a reparation payment equivalent to about $1.17 million. Rafael Caro Quintero was guilty in Camarena's killing but was released from prison in 2013 after an appeals court overturned his conviction on jurisdictional grounds. A warrant was issued for his re-arrest, but he remains at large.

### Peru

**1992:** *AP* reported on February 14, 2017, that jailed Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman, 82, was being tried at the Naval Base in Callao for the 1992 car bombing in Lima that killed 25 and injured 155. He was serving a life sentence for the deaths of 69 people in the Andrean village of Santiago de Lucanamarca in 1983. Prosecutors requested a second life sentence

and a fine of $122,000 in reparations for the intellectual authorship of the attack. He was represented by attorney Manuel Fajardo.

## *Middle East*

### Afghanistan

**January 19, 2009:** On September 29, 2017, *AP* reported that Muhanad Mahmoud al-Farekh, an American citizen originally from Houston who joined al-Qaeda, was convicted in the Eastern District of New York of participating in a failed suicide bombing on January 19, 2009, at Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost City, Afghanistan. The terrorist drove two vehicle bombs, one which injured several Afghans, including a pregnant woman. A much larger bomb failed to go off. Forensic technicians recovered 18 of Farekh's fingerprints on packing tape used to bind the detonators on the unexploded bomb. Farekh was convicted of conspiring to murder U.S. nationals, conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction, conspiracy to bomb a government facility and conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists.

The press had reported that Obama Administration officials had initially debated whether to try to kill him in a drone strike, but opted to try for a capture and civilian prosecution instead. He was captured in Pakistan and brought to the U.S. in 2015. He faced a life sentence. He was represented by attorney Sean Maher.

Zarein Ahmedzay, one of three men convicted in a thwarted plot to bomb New York's subway system, testified in the case, saying that he was trained by an al-Qaeda operative identified by prosecutors as a co-conspirator of Farekh's who traveled with him from Canada to Pakistan in 2007.

**June 30, 2009:** *NPR* reported on June 30, 2017, that a military court ruled that Bowe Bergdahl could be tried on charges of endangering fellow soldiers.

On October 6, 2017, *AP* reported that Army Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, 31, planned to plead guilty to desertion and misbehavior before the enemy, thereby avoiding trial. He was represented by attorney Eugene Fidell. The *Washington Post* reported on October 16, 2017, that Bergdahl pleaded guilty to the two charges. He faced five years for desertion and a life sentence for misbehavior. The judge, Army Col. Jeffery R. Nance, was expected to sentence Bergdahl at Fort Bragg in an October 23, 2017, hearing. At sentencing hearings, a Joint Personnel Recovery Agency agent testified that Bergdahl was a "gold mine" of intelligence about the Taliban and how hostages are treated. Armed services members testified about wounds they received in trying to locate Bergdahl, arguing for a stiffer sentence. After delays, on November 3, 2017, the judge spared Bergdahl a prison sentence, instead giving him a dishonorable discharge, reduced rank from sergeant to private, and ordered him to forfeit pay equal to $1,000 per month for ten months. President Trump tweeted "The decision on Sergeant Bergdahl is a complete and total disgrace to our Country and to our Military."

Lead defense attorney Eugene Fidell said before Trump's tweet that the president's pattern of incendiary remarks constituted grounds for an appellate court to dismiss the sentence entirely. Bergdahl will lose all benefits, including medical care, afforded to military veterans. Bergdahl's legal team said it would pursue the military's Prisoner of War Medal for him.

**October 2012:** The Haqqani network kidnapped married couple Caitlan Coleman of Stewartstown, Pennsylvania, and Joshua Boyle, a Canadian, in October 2012 while traveling in the trunk of a car in a mountainous region in Wardak Province near Kabul, Afghanistan as part of a journey through Russia and Central Asia. Coleman was pregnant when she was captured. The kidnappers held them in Pakistan. The *Washington Post* and *CNN* reported that the Pakistani military in coordination with U.S. agencies freed Coleman, now 31, Boyle, now 33, and their three children, all of whom were born in captivity, on October 12, 2017. The *Toronto Star* quoted Boyle's father as saying that the hostages were being moved from Afghanistan in a vehicle near Tal, south of Peshawar, when Pakistani forces initiated a shoot-out, killing five captors. Joshua Boyle was injured by shrapnel.

In 2013, Coleman and Boyle appeared in two videos asking the U.S. government to free them. In a video released in 2016, the couple said they feared their family could be executed in retaliation for Western attacks. Boyle said, "Our captors are terrified at the thought of their own mortality approaching and are saying that they will take reprisals on our own family.... They will execute us, women and children included, if the policies of the Afghan government are not overturned either by the Afghan government or by Canada, somehow." Coleman said the Taliban was "willing to kill us, willing to kill women, to kill children, to kill whomever to get these policies reversed or to take revenge." Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said that the video was recorded in 2015. *CNN* reported that a senior U.S. official said Joshua Boyle refused to board a U.S. military C-130 bound for the U.S. because "he thinks he will face law enforcement and possible arrest." The official said Boyle was previously married to Zaynab Khadr, the older sister of Omar Khadr, a Canadian citizen who was imprisoned for 10 years at Guantanamo Bay after fighting U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

Once the family had landed safely in Toronto, Boyle said on October 14 that the captors killed their infant daughter via a forced abortion and a guard, aided by his superiors, raped Coleman. The Taliban claimed it was a miscarriage. Boyle said his captors were "pagan" and "ran like cowards" from the firefight. He said one of his children had never seen daylight. Boyle said on October 17 that his wife was rushed to a Toronto hospital. Jim Coleman, her father, told *ABC News*, "taking your pregnant wife to a very dangerous place, to me, and the kind of person I am, is unconscionable."

The *New York Times* reported on October 15, 2017, that Boyle said, "The men who kidnapped us did not even make a pretense of being Muslim. They were undoubtedly criminals, they were undoubtedly pagans, they were directed by commanders who were not guided by Islam and who were not even pretending they were guided by Islam. The criminals who held us, they were not good Muslims, they were not even bad Muslims. They were pagan."

*AP* reported on January 2, 2018, and *CNN* added on January 3, 2018, that Boyle was arrested in Ottawa on 15 charges including seven counts of assault, two counts of sexual assault, two counts of unlawful forcible confinement, and one count of causing a victim to take a noxious substance (the antidepressant trazodone), and one count of uttering a death threat—all against one alleged victim; a separate count of assault against a second victim; and a count of misleading police "to divert suspicion from himself." He was represented by attorneys Ninetta Caparelli and Eric Granger. A hearing was scheduled for January 3 in Ottawa; Boyle appeared on a video link. Caitlan Coleman told the *Toronto Star*, "I can't speak about the specific charges, but I can say that ultimately it is the strain and trauma he was forced to endure for so many years and the effects that that had on his mental state that is most culpable for this…. Obviously, he is responsible for his own actions, but it is with compassion and forgiveness that I say I hope help and healing can be found for him. As to the rest of us, myself and the children, we are healthy and holding up as well as well we can." The purported acts allegedly occurred between October 14 and December 30, 2017.

**May 16, 2014:** On January 5, 2017, *CNN* reported that the family of American writer Peter Overby, 74, said he vanished in Afghanistan in May 2014 as he was traveling between Khost, Afghanistan and North Waziristan, Pakistan, a regional infested with Taliban and al-Qaeda terrorists. He was writing a book about the war in Afghanistan and was en route to interview Siraj Haqqani, leader of the Haqqani network.

**August 2016:** On January 11, 2017, *AP* reported that the Taliban released a 13-minute video showing two Western hostages, American Kevin King and Australian Timothy Weeks tearfully calling on President-elect Donald Trump to negotiate with their captors to secure their release via a prisoner exchange. They were kidnapped in August 2016 outside Kabul's American University of Afghanistan, where the two worked as English professors. Weeks said, "This is a message for the President-elect Donald Trump. I ask you, please … please negotiate with the Taliban. If you do not negotiate with them, we will be killed." He said the Taliban wanted their members released from detention centers at Bagram air base and Pul-i-Charkhi prison, outside Kabul. "I don't know how much longer I can go. I don't want to die here."

On June 21, 2017, *AP* reported that the Taliban released a video showing hostages American Kevin King and Australian Timothy Weeks, who said the date is June 16.

On October 30, 2017, *AP* reported that the Taliban claimed that kidnapped American professor Kevin King, 61, was gravely ill and urged the U.S. to accede to their demands for his release and that of an Australian colleague, Timothy Weeks. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said, "We have periodically tried to treat and cure him, but since we are facing a war situation, we do not really have access to health facilities to provide him complete treatment." Mujahid said King suffered from heart disease, kidney problem and swollen feet.

**November 5, 2016:** On March 15, 2017, an Australian aid worker who was kidnapped in November was released. No one was arrested in connection with the kidnapping of the Pakistani born–Australian female employee of the non-governmental organization Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR) in Kabul. She was with her driver when she was taken away by gunmen. She was more than 40 years old. 16110501

**December 19, 2016:** On January 15, 2017, the International Committee of the Red Cross announced that a Spanish staff member who was abducted in Kunduz Province as he was traveling to Mazar-i-Sharif on December 19, 2016, had been released. Three colleagues were left unharmed. 16121904

## Bahrain

**2014:** On January 15, 2017, Bahraini authorities executed via firing squad three Shi'ite men, Abbas al-Samea, Sami Mushaima and Ali al-Singace, found guilty in 2015 of a 2014 bomb attack in Daih that killed two Bahraini policemen and an Emirati officer.

## Egypt

**2013:** On October 10, 2017, the Cairo Criminal Court sentenced eight defendants to death for storming the Helwan police station in 2013. The court sentenced another 50 to life on charges that included the Helwan attack.

**2013:** On December 26, 2017, the *Voice of America* and *AP* reported that Egypt's Prisons Authority hanged 15 jihadis convicted of staging an attack on an army checkpoint in the Sinai Peninsula in 2013 that killed an army officer and eight conscripts. The executions occurred in two prisons to the west and northwest of Cairo.

**August 2013:** On July 2, 2017, an Egyptian court sentenced 20 people to death for their part in the August 2013 killings of more than a dozen policemen at a police station in Kerdassah west of Cairo.

**September 19, 2013:** On April 24, 2017, *AP* reported that the Cairo Criminal Court upheld death sentences against 20 jihadis convicted of murder in the deaths of 15 people, including eleven police, during the attack on a police station in Kerdasa on September 19, 2013. Among the dead was Giza Police General Nabil Farrag.

**June 29, 2015:** On June 17, 2017, *AP* reported that judge Hassan Farid of a criminal court sentenced to death 31 jihadis for the June 29, 2015, assassination of Hisham Barakat, the country's prosecutor general, in the Heliopolis district of Cairo. The court was scheduled to reconvene on July 22 to reaffirm the death sentences and issue its verdict on the 36 other defendants in the case. Fifteen defendants were at large. On July 22, 2017, an Egyptian court sentenced 28 people to death for their involvement in the assassination of Barakat. Preliminary death sentences had been issued in June. The court handed other defendants a variety of jail terms up to life in prison. Of 67 defendants, 15 remained at large.

**March 29, 2016:** On November 2, 2017, Cyprus's Supreme Court rejected 60-year-old Egyptian hijacker Seif Eddin Mustafa's appeal against his extradition. On March 29, 2016, he hijacked an Egyptair plane carrying 72 passengers and crew to Larnaca airport using a fake suicide belt. The five-judge panel unanimously upheld a lower court ruling. Mustafa claimed that he could be tortured by Egyptian authorities or be subjected to an unfair trial. Prosecutors said Mustafa admitted in writing that he carried out the hijacking to reunite with his Cypriot family. Hours after the 29-page ruling, the European Court of Human Rights stayed extradition until it could examine the case. He was represented by attorney Nicoletta Charalambidou.

**December 11, 2016:** *AP* reported on January 4, 2017, that the interior ministry announced the arrest of three more suspects in the Cairo church suicide bombing. Earlier, three men and a woman had been arrested. The Ministry said the trio planned other "terrorist operations" and that one of the men was found with weapons, including explosives. Egypt's IS affiliate had claimed credit, but the government blamed the banned Muslim Brotherhood. By January 4, the death toll had risen to 28 as another gravely wounded victim perished from injuries. The ministry said the attacker belonged to a terror cell founded by an Egyptian doctor and funded by Brotherhood leaders living in exile in Qatar.

## Iran

**November 4, 1979—Iran—***The Intelligencer* reported that on May 27, 2017, USAF (ret) Brigadier General Neal Terry Robinson, 65, died of cancer. He had briefly been held captive in the takeover of the U.S. Embassy in November 1979. He was released after 16 days because the Iranian students wanted to show solidarity with other "oppressed minorities."

**January 2016:** On July 30, 2017, *AP* and *IRNA* reported that an appeals court approved the three-to-six-month jail sentences of ten people charged with attacking Saudi diplomatic missions in Tehran and Mashhad in January 2016. Four defendants were clerics and therefore would have to appear before the Special Clerical Court.

## Iraq

**2014:** *AP* and Amnesty International reported on January 25, 2017, that Iraq executed 31 men in Salahuddin Province on January 20, 2017, for their role in ISIS's 2014 mass killing of hundreds of Iraqi army cadets.

**December 16, 2015:** On April 11, 2017, *AP* reported that Khalifa bin Fahed bin Mohammed al-Thani, a member of Qatar's ruling family and chairman of KBF Trading and Contracting Co. in Doha, made a $2 million payment to a Greek shoe salesman's firm in the U.S. to help it get "proof of life" and ultimately free ruling family members kidnapped in Iraq in December 2015. Al-Thani signed a contract dated March 8, 2017, with the San Diego Global Strategies Council, Inc. for the firm "to obtain proof of life" and "attempt to negotiate with captors for the release of captive members of the royal family of Qatar." Two dozen Qataris were grabbed at dawn at a desert camp near the Saudi border in Muthanna Province during a falconry hunt. In April 2016, the Qatari Foreign Ministry said one of the hunters and "his Asian companion" were freed. *AP* reported on April 21, 2017, that the 26 hostages, including eleven members of the al-Thani family, were released. A negotiator said Qatar paid tens of millions of dollars to Shi'ite groups, and to the al-Qaeda-linked Levant Liberation Committee and Ahrar al-Sham. The negotiator said the hostages were held by Iraqi Shi'ite militia Kata'eb Hizballah. The group denied it was behind the kidnapping. The negotiator said the ongoing evacuation and transfer of thousands of Syrians from four areas—Foua, Kfarya, Zabadani, and Madaya—was key to the release of the Qataris.

**December 26, 2016:** Eight gunmen in two pickup

trucks, claiming to be members of the security forces, broke into the house of female journalist/activist Afrah Shawqi al-Qaisi in Baghdad's southwestern Saydiyah neighborhood during the night and kidnapped her. They handcuffed her 16-year-old son, kept him in the kitchen and stole gold, money, phones, laptops and her car. They beat her brother-in-law who lives next door. She was also an employee of the Ministry of Culture. *AP* reported on January 4, 2017, that al-Qaisi was released the night of January 3, 2017. She was questioned by police the next day. No group claimed credit.

## Israel

**May 1996:** On May 12, 2017, *USA Today* reported that Stanley and Joyce Boim, the parents of David Boim, 17, a yeshiva student who was shot by Hamas at a West Bank bus stop in May 1996, would sue the American Muslims for Palestine charity. They were represented by attorney Stephen Landis. In 2004, the Boims won a $156 million judgment, upheld in 2008 by a federal appeals court, against U.S.-based Palestinian charities linked to Hamas. The organizations could not afford to pay and closed down. The Boims said AMP was a successor organization.

**August 9, 2001:** *USA Today* reported on March 14, 2017, U.S. officials unsealed terrorism charges against Ahlam Aref Ahmad al-Tamimi, alias Khalti, 37, a Jordanian woman implicated in the 2001 Hamas bombing of a Jerusalem Sbarro pizzeria that killed 15, including two Americans, and wounded 122, including four Americans. Israel convicted her in 2003 on multiple murder charges. She was sentenced to 16 life terms, but was released in 2011 after eight years as part of a prisoner exchange between Israel and Hamas. She returned to Jordan, which prohibits extradition. She was a student working as a TV journalist at the time. Court documents said she surveilled the location and accompanied suicide bomber Izz al-Din Shukeil al-Masri from Ramallah; he carried the bomb in his guitar. The FBI added her as number 29 on its list of Most Wanted Terrorists. She was charged in the U.S. in 2013 with conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction outside the U.S. against U.S. nationals. *AP* reported on March 21, 2017, that Jordan's highest court, the Court of Cassation, blocked extradition because of lack of a bilateral treaty. She told *AP* that she feared for her life after getting death threats, including from Americans, on social media and defended her role in killing civilians as legitimate resistance to Israeli occupation. She complained that the U.S. proceedings disrupted her life with husband Nizar, 43, who was also released in the 2011 swap, after serving 19 years for killing an Israeli. Among those killed in the bombing was Malka Roth, 15, a U.S. citizen.

**2015:** On July 3, 2017, the Nazareth District Court convicted Israeli Jewish extremist Yinon Reuveni, 22, for the 2015 arson on the Holy Land Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fish on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel, sites of Jesus's miracle. The attack extensively damaged the building and burned prayer books. The building sits on the remains of a fifth-century Byzantine church. Sentencing was scheduled for September 2017.

**March 24, 2016:** Two Palestinians stabbed and wounded an Israeli soldier in Hebron before troops shot and killed the attackers. On January 4, 2017, an Israeli military court convicted Army medic Sergeant Elor Azaria, 20, of manslaughter for fatally shooting in the head Abdel Fattah al-Sharif, a disarmed and wounded Palestinian who was lying on the ground. Senior politicians, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, called for a pardon for Azaria. Colonel Maya Heller, head of the tribunal, said "We found there was no room to accept his arguments. His motive for shooting was that he felt the terrorist deserved to die."

On February 21, 2017, *AP* reported that a military tribunal sentenced Israeli Sergeant Elor Azaria, 20, to 18 months for shooting Abdel Fattah al-Sharif. The army medic had shown no remorse. The defense said al-Sharif might have been concealing an explosive device under his jacket. On February 24, 2017, UN human rights office spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani said the organization was "deeply disturbed" by the "lenient" sentence and the "chronic culture of impunity" in Israel when it comes to soldiers involved in the conflict with Palestinians.

## Jordan

**1997:** On March 12, 2017, Ahmed Daqamseh, a Jordanian soldier who killed seven Israeli schoolgirls and wounded seven other girls during a 1997 class trip near the Island of Peace border post in Jordan, was released after serving 20 years in prison. A military court had called him mentally unstable at the time and sentenced him to life in prison, which in Jordan typically means 25 years.

**June 2016:** On March 15, 2017, five Syrians with alleged ISIS ties pleaded not guilty in Jordan's State Security Court to charges they participated in a cross-border suicide car bombing near the Rukban camp that killed seven Jordanian border guards and wounded 15 soldiers in June 2016. They faced the death penalty. Defense attorney Basheer Oqily said they were charged with involvement in the attack, and with possessing explosives and weapons.

*Reuters* reported on December 4, 2017, that the State Security Court in Amman sentenced a Syrian to death and handed life sentences to three others for their role in the car bombing. Military judge Colonel Mohammad al-Afif said the men, in their early twenties, aided ISIS by providing photos and intelligence about the Jordanian military post. The four

residents of Rukban camp were found guilty of "abetting terrorist acts that led to the death of human beings" and other charges of committing "terrorist acts using automatic weapons." A fifth defendant was acquitted.

**November 4, 2016:** On June 4, 2017, *CNN* reported that the government of Jordan formally charged one of its soldiers with murder for the November 4, 2016, attack on a military convoy that killed three U.S. Army Special Forces members at the King Faisal Air Base. First Sergeant Marik al-Tuwayha had worn body armor and carried an M-16 rifle. Army Staff Sergeant Kevin McEnroe, 30, of Tucson, Arizona, was killed instantly and Staff Sergeant Matthew Lewellen, 27, of Kirksville, Missouri, was mortally wounded. Staff Sergeant James Moriarty, 27, of Kerrville, Texas, suffered a mortal wound after firing his pistol at the Jordanian guard. Presiding Judge Mohammed al-Afif said the case was a nonterrorist criminal incident. The defendant faced life in prison with hard labor, but not the death penalty, according to al-Afif. Al-Tuwayha pleaded not guilty on June 14.

On July 17, 2017, a Jordanian military court convicted al-Tuwayha of killing three U.S. Army Green Beret military trainers at the al-Jafr air base and sentenced him to life in prison with hard labor. Al-Tuwayha said he feared that the base was coming under attack. "I have all the respect for the king, but I was doing my job." Defense lawyer Subhi al-Mawas said he would appeal. In Jordan, life in prison can mean 20 years, with time off for good behavior. *AP* reported on July 28 that the Howeitat tribe demanded that the government release al-Tuwayha or face a wave of tribal unrest.

On August 3, 2017, a five-judge military appeals court upheld the life with hard labor sentence of First Sgt. Marik al-Tuwayha for killing the Americans at the entrance to an air base in southern Jordan.

## Lebanon

**September 14, 1982:** *AP* reported on October 20, 2017, that a court in Lebanon sentenced in absentia Lebanese citizens Habib Tanious Shartouni and Nabil Faraj al-Alam, both members of the pro–Syrian Syrian Social Nationalist Party, to death for the assassination of President-elect Bashir Gemayel, 34, and 23 supporters at the right-wing Christian Phalange Party headquarters in the east Beirut neighborhood of Ashrafiyeh on September 14, 1982. Days after the bombing, Shartouni was detained and held until 1990, when he was set free after the Syrian military moved into Lebanon's Christian heartland and removed then-prime minister Michel Aoun. Shartouni had been at large since he broke out of prison on October 16, 1990. Al-Alam was believed to have died in Latin America in 2014.

## Libya

**September 11, 2012:** *NPR* reported that on October 2, 2017, the trial in a federal courthouse in Washington, D.C., began of Ahmed Abu Khattala, who was believed involved in the attack of U.S. facilities in Benghazi in 2012 that killed four Americans. He faced 18 charges, including the murder of an internationally protected person, providing material support to terrorists and destroying U.S. property while causing death.

On October 30, 2017, *CNN* and *AP* reported that U.S. Navy SEALs captured Libyan national Mustafa al-Imam in Misrata, Libya before midnight on October 29 for his alleged role in the 2012 Benghazi attacks. The U.S. government claimed to have video of al-Imam present at one of the two sites of the attacks. He was flown to a U.S. Navy ship, to be transferred to the U.S. for federal prosecution in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Three criminal charges were filed in May 2015, and recently unsealed. They included killing or conspiring to kill someone during an attack on a federal facility, providing support for terrorists, and using a firearm in connection with a violent crime. He pleaded not guilty.

The *Washington Post* reported on November 28, 2017, that after five days of deliberations, a jury convicted Ahmed Abu Khattala, 46, of terrorism charges in the Benghazi attacks. However, he was not found directly responsible for any of the deaths of Americans. The jury acquitted Abu Khattala of 14 of the 18 charges against him, finding him not guilty of murder. He had been charged with aiding or abetting the killing of the four Americans and wounding two other Americans, providing or conspiring to provide material support and resources to terrorists that resulted in death, destruction of government buildings and property, and a firearms violation. His defense team claimed he was a bystander. He faced up to 60 years in prison, including up to 15 years in prison for each of the two terrorism counts, and up to 20 years for the destruction of property. He also faced a mandatory minimum term of ten years for using a semiautomatic weapon in a crime of violence, to be served in addition to any other sentence.

**2015:** On October 7, 2017, the media office of the anti–ISIS organization al-Bonyan al-Marsous said that Libyan authorities recovered the bodies of 21 Coptic Christian workers, including 20 Egyptians and one African, wearing orange uniforms, who were beheaded in 2015 by ISIS in Sirte. The organization said that an arrested IS militant, who witnessed the attack, provided details on the incident and the terrorists involved. The victims had their hands cuffed to their backs.

### Syria

**May 2012:** On February 16, 2017, Judge Tomas Zander of the Stockholm District Court sentenced Syrian refugee Haisam Omar Sakhanh, 46, to life imprisonment for his participation in the 2012 mass execution of seven government troops in Syria. The court said he joined the armed group Suleiman Company in early May 2012, and shot a person dead with an assault rifle. Sakhanh had confessed to the shooting but said he should not be prosecuted because the death sentences had been made by a legitimate court and he had been following orders. The court said he had been active in Italy in 2011 and 2012 in protests against the Syrian government. Italian police identified him via fingerprints and photos of him illegally entering the Syrian Embassy in Rome during a protest. He returned to Syria, then sought asylum in Sweden in 2013. He obtained refugee status and a permanent residence permit in early 2016. He was held in pre-trial custody since March 2016. In Sweden, life imprisonment is normally ten years. The court said Sakhanh should then be expelled from the country and banned from returning.

**July 12, 2015:** The *Daily Beast* reported on February 14, 2017, that *AFP* journalist Antonio Pampliega was freed on May 8, 2016, but had not gained back the 50 pounds he lost as a Nusra Front hostage for ten months in Aleppo. 15071201

**November 29, 2016:** On January 10, 2017, *Anadolu* reported that two Turkish soldiers who went missing during a battle with ISIS in northern Syria on November 29, 2016, had died. They were believed to have been taken hostage by ISIS. 16112901

### Tunisia

**March 18, 2015:** On March 12, 2017, *AP* and German public broadcaster *ARD* reported that a Tunisian man, who allegedly was involved in an attack on the Bardo National Museum that killed more than 20 people in Tunis in 2015, could be deported from Germany. *ARD* reported he also participated in a March 2016 attack on a Tunisian town. He was in German custody pending deportation from September to November 2016, but was released again because Tunis did not send required documents. He was detained again in February 2017. On July 11, 2017, the trial began in Tunis of 24 people, including two women, regarding the 2015 IS attack on Tunisia's Bardo National Museum. Twelve defendants faced death sentences on charges of voluntary homicide with premeditation. Three defendants, who had not been held in jail, were absent from the courtroom. Defense attorneys included Samir Ben Amor.

**June 26, 2015:** *AP* reported on February 28, 2017, that British Judge Nicholas Lorraine-Smith said that the Tunisian police response to the attack on the Sousse beach in Tunisia and the deaths of 30 British tourists at the five-star Riu Imperial Marhaba Hotel was "at best shambolic, at worst cowardly." He ruled that the tourists had been unlawfully killed by IS gunman Seifeddine Rezgui, who killed 38 people, mostly British tourists. The judge rejected calls to issue a finding of neglect by travel firms and hotels. Tunisian anti-terrorism court spokesman Sofiane Selliti said six police officers should be tried for deliberately failing to help victims. A lawyer planned a civil lawsuit against tour operator TUI.

On May 26, 2017, *AP* reported that the trial in Tunis began of six security officers and 20 other people for the 2015 ISIS attack. The officers were accused of failing to prevent or stop the attack. The others faced charges including involvement in preparing or inciting the violence.

### Yemen

**March 2016:** *AP* reported on September 12, 2017, that Indian Catholic priest Tom Uzhunnalil, who had been kidnapped from a home for the aged in March 2016, had been rescued. The Salesian priest served for more than four years as a chaplain at the home in Aden established by Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. The terrorists killed 16 people, including four nuns, and destroyed the chapel and the center. There were 80 residents at the home. Uzhunnalil comes from Ramapuram in the southern Indian state of Kerala. *AP* reported on September 16 that Father Uzhunnalil said he was not harmed by the kidnappers, although they feigned hitting him on videos seeking ransom. The head of the Salesian order, Don. A.F. Artime, said they have no knowledge of any ransom having been paid. Fr. Uzhunnalil lost about 66 pounds and was generally weakened. Uzhunnalil said his captors procured tablets to treat his diabetes.

**October 2016:** On January 11, 2017, *AP* reported that a video surfaced of hostage Craig McAllister, an Australian kidnapped in October 2016 in Sana'a, with a rifle pointed at his head. He said his captors would kill him if their demands were not met, but did not identify his kidnappers or list their demands. McAllister had been working there as a football coach.

On May 24, 2017, *AP* reported that an Australian citizen kidnapped in Sana'a in October 2016 had been freed following assistance by the sultanate of Oman and Yemeni tribal leaders. It was not immediately known whether a ransom had been paid. Over the past months, several videos had surfaced online purporting to show the hostage. 16109901

## *United States and Canada*

### Canada

**June 23, 1985:** On February 17, 2017, *USA Today* and *Newser* reported that Inderjit Singh Reyat, the

only person convicted in the June 23, 1985, bombing of Air India Flight 182, was freed. He had been convicted of building two bombs placed on flights departing Vancouver. One exploded, killing 329 people. The second went off at Japan's Narita airport, killing two baggage handlers. He had pleaded guilty to manslaughter. Two other people were acquitted. He was released to a halfway house in January 2017. In 2013, a psychologist found that he showed "a lack of true empathy and remorse."

## United States

**April 19, 1995:** On February 14, 2017, James Nichols, 62, who was detained as a possible accomplice but not charged in the Oklahoma City truck bombing, died in Saginaw, Michigan. His brother Terry helped Timothy J. McVeigh set off the bomb that killed 168. McVeigh had listed James as next of kin when he was arrested.

**September 11, 2001:** On August 8, 2017, *AP* reported that al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri announced in an online audio posted on August 2 the death of Said Bahaji, alias Zuhair al-Maghribi, a German man of Moroccan descent believed to have provided logistical support to the Hamburg-based 9/11 suicide hijackers Mohamad Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi and Ziad Jarrah when they were in Hamburg. Al-Zawahiri said "martyr" Zuhair al-Maghribi had worked for *as-Sahab*, the group's media arm. Al-Maghribi was wanted on an international arrest warrant issued by Germany shortly after the 9/11 attacks. In an operation in 2009, the Pakistani military raided a Taliban stronghold along the Afghan border and found Bahaji's German passport, which included a tourist visa for Pakistan and a stamp indicating he had arrived in Karachi on September 4, 2001.

Al-Zawahiri added that Khalid Sheikh Muhammad founded *as-Sahab*.

The United Nations Security Council earlier said Bahaji was "reportedly deceased in September 2013 in the Afghanistan/Pakistan border area."

On December 6, 2017, *AP* reported that Saudi Guantanamo Bay detainee Mustafa Ahmed al-Hawsawi, 49, told interrogators over four days in January 2004 that he bought plane tickets and facilitated money transfers for seven of the 9/11 hijackers. He was represented by attorney Walter Ruiz.

**October 2002:** *CNN* reported on May 26, 2017, that U.S. District Court Judge Raymond Jackson overturned the two life sentences of Washington-area sniper Lee Boyd Malvo and sent the case back to state courts in Chesapeake and Spotslvania County in Virginia for resentencing. The U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that mandatory life sentences for juveniles were unconstitutional; Malvo was 17 when he was arrested for the ten murders.

**2010—U.S.—**The northeast Florida Islamic Center at 2333 St. Johns Bluff Road South in Jacksonville, Florida, was firebombed. The device was planted outside near a brick wall. No injuries were reported. Some 80 people were inside when the bomb went off. Assailant Sandlin Matthews Smith, 46, was killed a year later in Oklahoma when the FBI and Oklahoma Highway Patrol agents surrounded him in a field. He brandished a weapon before being shot.

**April 2015:** On July 25, 2017, *Army Times* reported that John T. Booker, Jr., 22, who was arrested while he tried to set off a bomb in April 2015 outside the Army's Fort Riley in Topeka, Kansas in support of ISIS, was sentenced on July 24, 2017, to 30 years in federal prison. He pleaded guilty in February 2017 to one count of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and one count of attempting to destroy government property with an explosive device. Prosecutors dropped a charge of attempting to provide material support to ISIS.

**June 16, 2015:** On February 11, 2017, *CNN* reported that Munther Omar Saleh, 21, of Queens, and Fareed Mumuni, 22, of Staten Island, who were arrested on June 16, 2015, for conspiracy to support ISIS and plotting to set off a pressure-cooker bomb in New York, pleaded guilty to all charges against them, including assaulting and conspiring to assault federal officers, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. Mumuni also was charged with "attempted murder of federal officers." Saleh, Mumuni and others helped plan a New Jersey man's trip to ISIS-controlled territory. Saleh accompanied Nader Saadeh to John F. Kennedy International Airport, where Saadeh began his trip with a flight bound for Jordan. Saadeh was arrested and later pleaded guilty to conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. Saleh, a U.S. citizen and a former aeronautics student, faced up to 53 years in prison. Mumuni's immigration status was not clear; he faced up to 85 years in prison. Sentencing was scheduled for May 16.

**June 17, 2015:** The *Washington Post* reported on January 5, 2017, that Dylann Roof wrote in his jailhouse journal that his prison experience was "worth it" because of what he said were the wrongs of the black community. "I would like to make it crystal clear, I do not regret what I did .... I am not sorry. I have not shed a tear for the innocent people I killed." He also said it was "not fair" that he had to hear testimony from the family members of his victims. *AP* reported that he told the jury, "There's nothing wrong with me psychologically." He had written in his journal that psychology was "a Jewish invention" that "does nothing but invent diseases and tell people they have problems when they don't." After deliberating for three hours, the jurors on January 10, 2017, recommended the death penalty. U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel pronounced the sentence on January 11,

2017. *AP* reported on March 31, 2017, that Dylann Roof planned to plead guilty to state murder charges during a hearing on April 10 in Charleston, South Carolina, which would avoid a second death sentence. On April 10, 2017, Dylann Roof pleaded guilty in the South Carolina state court trial, avoiding a second death-penalty trial.

On May 23, 2017, *UPI* reported that Dylann Roof appealed his conviction and death sentence to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Virginia. His lawyers were then replaced by federal public defenders in Maryland and California during the appeals process.

**September 9, 2015:** On December 20, 2017, Joshua Ryne Goldberg, 22, who was arrested on September 9, 2015, for encouraging a terrorist attack in Garland, Texas and tried to assist another in Kansas City, pleaded guilty. Prosecutors recommended an eight-year sentence and that he continue to undergo treatment for mental health issues.

**December 2, 2015:** On February 14, 2017, Enrique Marquez, Jr., 25, of Riverside, California, agreed to a plea deal in which he would plead guilty to providing the two AR-15 rifles used to kill 14 people and injure nearly two dozen others in the attack at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino and to plotting in 2011 and 2012 with the gunman Syed Rizwan Farook to massacre college students and gun down motorists on a gridlocked California Route 91 freeway and throw pipe bombs into a crowded cafeteria at Riverside City College. Marquez faced 25 years in prison.

**June 12, 2016:** On January 16, 2017, the FBI arrested Noor Salman, 30, wife of June 12, 2016, Orlando nightclub shooter Omar Mateen, at a residence in Rodeo, California on charges of obstruction of justice and aiding and abetting by providing material support to a terrorist organization. The charges were filed in the Middle District of Florida. The *Orlando Sentinel* and *Florida Times-Union* reported on April 9, 2017, that an $8.5 million U.S. Department of Justice Anti-Terrorism Emergency Assistance Program and crime victims office grant was given to Pulse shooting victims. The money was to be used for mental health counseling for victims, witnesses and first responders for 27 months.

**July 3, 2016:** Mohamed Bailor Jalloh was arrested on July 3, 2016, for trying to join ISIS in Africa. He was sentenced on February 10, 2017, to eleven years in prison.

**August 2016:** *AP* reported on December 12, 2017, that the federal trial began of Nicholas Young, 37, a former Washington, D.C. Metro Transit Police officer who lived in Alexandria, Virginia, who was the first police officer to face terrorism charges in the U.S. The investigation of him began in 2010. In August 2016, when he was arrested, he bought Google Play gift cards that prosecutors say he thought would be used by ISIS recruits to download encrypted messaging applications. Assistant U.S. Attorney Gordon Kromberg told the judge that an FBI agent "didn't sleep at nights because [the neo–Nazi anti–Semite] had talked about torturing and killing an FBI agent." Young was represented by defense attorney Linda Moreno, who said the case was entrapment. Young had a framed photograph of Hitler at his house, an SS tattoo, and used an Israeli flag as a doormat.

**September 11, 2016:** On February 6, 2017, Circuit Judge Steven Levin in Fort Pierce, Florida, sentenced ex-convict Joseph Schreiber, 32, to 30 years in prison for the September 11, 2016, arson of the Islamic Center of Fort Pierce mosque that Omar Mateen, the June 12, 2016, Orlando Pulse nightclub shooter, had occasionally attended. The judge ordered him to pay $10,000 in restitution, although damages exceeded $100,000. Schreiber, a habitual offender, could have received a life sentence. He pleaded no contest. He had posted anti–Islamic rants online.

**September 17, 2016:** The *New York Daily News* reported on October 16, 2017, that a Manhattan jury found U.S. citizen and fast food worker Ahmad Khan Rahimi, 29, guilty of detonating a shrapnel-packed bomb that injured 30 people the night of September 17, 2016, in Chelsea. He was convicted of eight charges, including using a weapon of mass destruction, bombing a public place and interstate transportation of explosives. He had placed ten pipe and pressure cooker bombs on both sides of the Hudson River. One failed to go off four blocks away from the Chelsea explosion. He was captured on September 19, 2016, following a shoot-out with police in Linden, New Jersey, in which he was shot seven times; two police officers were wounded in the clash. He lived in nearby Elizabeth, New Jersey, where he allegedly planted a knapsack filled with pipe bombs in a trash can near a train station for Amtrak and NJ Transit. He faced life in prison. Prosecutors said he became radicalized during a 2014 visit to his native Afghanistan.

*CNN* quoted federal prosecutors on December 24, 2017, who said that Ahmad Khan Rahimi had been trying to radicalize other inmates in the Metropolitan Correction Center by giving them copies of terrorist propaganda and jihadist materials, including speeches by Osama Bin Laden and the late jihadi cleric Anwar al-Aulaqi, bomb-making instructions, books on jihad and issues of the AQAP magazine *Inspire*. Rahimi told a judge he was on a hunger strike because he claimed he had not be visited by his wife and children since the end of his trial in October. "I am on a short time because my sentencing date is on January 18, 2018. Because of this short time and the frustration I have decided to go on a hunger strike." Among the inmates to whom he provided materials was Sajmir Alimehmeti, who was scheduled to go on trial in January 2018 on terrorism-related charges. Alimehmeti was represented by attorney Sabrina Shroff, who also defended Rahimi.

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